

LABOUR GAZETTE, AUGUST, 1904.

CORRECTION.

In paragraph 2, page 225, read July instead of June.

LABOUR GAZETTE

THE JOURNAL OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

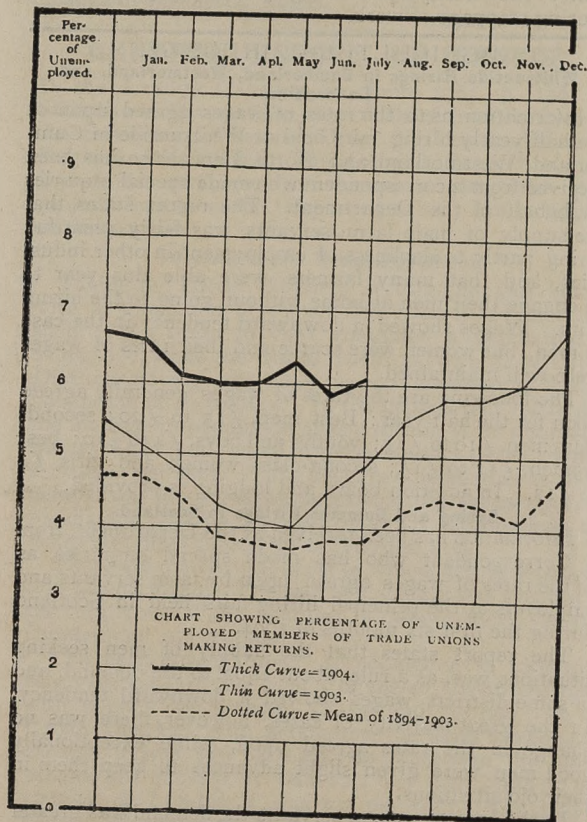
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AUGUST, 1904.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

EMPLOYMENT CHART.



STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN JULY.

[Based on 4,614 returns, viz.: 3,154 from Employers, or their Associations, 1,371 from Trade Unions, and 89 from other sources.]

On the whole, employment in July was slightly worse than in June. As compared with a year ago, a general decline is shown, except in the Cotton Trade, in which, however, short time continues.

In the 270 Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of 568,272 making returns, 34,494 (or 6.1 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 5.9 per cent. a month ago, and 4.9 per cent. in July, 1903. The mean percentage of unemployed returned at the end of June during the ten years 1894-1903 was 3.8.

Employment in various Industries.—Coal Mining.—Employment in this industry during July showed a slight falling off as compared with both a month and a year ago. At collieries employing 537,541 workpeople, the pits worked an average of 4.79 days per week, as compared with 4.95 in June, and 4.84 a year ago. At the pits respecting which returns have been received for both periods, the number of workpeople employed was about 1 per cent. less than in June, but about 1.4 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry continued good. At the 129 mines and open works covered by the

returns received from employers, the average number of days worked per week during the four weeks ended July 23rd, was 5.74, as compared with 5.90 in June, and 5.69 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed was 1.6 per cent. less than a month ago, and 2.5 per cent. less than a year ago.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment in this industry shows a falling off compared with a month ago and continues worse than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 112 ironmasters show that 298 furnaces, employing about 21,100 workpeople, were in blast at the end of July, as compared with 306 at the end of June, and 321 in July, 1903.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment in the iron and steel trades was not quite so good as either a month ago or a year ago. Returns furnished by employers and relating to 194 works, employing 73,613 workpeople, in the week ended July 23rd, show a decrease in the total volume of employment of 1.1 per cent. as compared with the preceding month, and of 1.3 per cent. as compared with July, 1903.

Tinplate Manufacture.—Employment in the tinplate industry shows a decline as compared with June, but is better than a year ago. At the end of July 354 mills were working, as compared with 363 at the end of June, and 332 a year ago. The estimated number of workpeople employed in July, 1904, was 17,700.

Engineering Trades.—Employment generally continues dull, and worse than a year ago. The proportion of unemployed Trade Union members was 6.7 per cent. at the end of July, compared with the same percentage in June and with 3.9 per cent. in July, 1903.

Shipbuilding Trades.—Employment continues bad and is worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of July was 12.9, as compared with the same percentage at the end of June, and with 10.5 per cent. at the end of July, 1903.

Building Trades.—Employment generally continues dull and on the whole shows little change compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago it is rather worse. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members among *Carpenters* and *Joiners* was 5.7 at the end of July, compared with 6.3 at the end of June and 3.3 a year ago. The percentage for *Plumbers* was 10.4 at the end of July, compared with 9.9 at the end of June and 6.7 a year ago.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment in these trades continues dull, and is about the same as a month ago, but worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of July was 5.7, as compared with 5.5 per cent. in June and 4.2 per cent. a year ago.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—Employment in July is quiet on the whole. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of July was 4.4, as compared with 5.1 in June and 4.4 in July, 1903.

Employment in the *Papermaking* trade was fair, the percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of July being 3.2, against 2.7 in June, and 2.6 in July, 1903.

Employment in the *Glass* trade was bad in the bottle-making branch, and worse than a month ago; in the flint-glass branch it continued slack. It also continued slack in the *Pottery* trades, and in the *Brick and Tile* trades.

Cotton Trade.—Employment in both spinning and weaving is still only moderate, and much short time is being worked; it is, however, distinctly better than a year ago. The majority of the mills running short time in June and July last worked 47½ hours, but in July, 1903, short time meant 40 hours only. Returns from firms employing 51,400 workpeople in preparing and spinning show that 39·4 per cent. were in mills working short time during the last week in July, compared with 38·3 per cent. during the last week in June, and 49·5 per cent. in the last week in July, 1903. Of the 92,500 workpeople in weaving and other departments 15·4 per cent. were in factories working short time during the last week in July, compared with 11·1 per cent. in June and 29·4 per cent. a year ago.

Employment in the *Woollen* trade has continued good on the whole; it is better than a year ago in England, but worse in Scotland. In the *Worsted* trade it remains slack, and is a little worse than a year ago.

Employment in the *Hosiery* trade continues bad, and is worse than a year ago. In the *Jute* and *Flax* trades it is moderate, and worse than a year ago.

Boot and Shoe Trade.—Employment is bad, and is worse than a month ago and a year ago. Returns from 462 firms, employing 59,662 workpeople, and paying £210,200 in wages during the month, show an increase of 0·7 per cent. in numbers employed at the end of the month, but a decrease of 5·9 per cent. in wages paid during the month compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 0·3 per cent. in numbers employed at the end of the month, but a decrease of 5·4 per cent. in wages paid during the month.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the *Tailoring* trade has been dull, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the ready-made branch it has continued bad, and is worse than a year ago.

Employment in the silk and felt *Hat-making* trades continues quiet. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of July was 3·5, compared with 3·4 per cent. at the end of June, and 3·5 per cent. a year ago.

Leather Trades.—Returns relating to these trades indicate that the general state of employment continues bad, and is worse than a month ago and a year ago, with much short time. The percentage of Trade Union members reported as unemployed at the end of July was 10·6, as compared with 10·2 in June, and 6·7 per cent. in July, 1903.

Agricultural Labourers were for the most part fully employed in haymaking and hoeing. The supply of day labourers was, generally speaking, about sufficient.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—Employment during July remained moderate, showing a decline as compared with a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in London during the five weeks ended July 30th was 12,735, an increase of 4·0 per cent. on the average for June, and a decrease of 5·8 per cent. on the average for July, 1903.

Trade Disputes.—The total number of workpeople involved in disputes which began or were in progress during July, 1904, was 16,322, compared with 6,792 in June, 1904, and 10,100 in July, 1903.

The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 262,800 working days, as compared with 81,300 in the previous month and 130,800 in the corresponding month of 1903. Fifteen disputes began in July, involving 11,591 workpeople, compared with 16 in June, 1904, and 14 in July, 1903.

Definite results were reported during the month in the case of 15 disputes, new and old, affecting 5,979 workpeople. Of these disputes, four, involving 3,751 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; eight, involving 1,404 persons, were decided in favour of the employers; and three, involving 824 persons, were compromised. In the case of two other disputes, terminating during the month, and involving 644 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in rates of wages reported during July affected nearly 5,300 workpeople, of whom over 1,500 received advances and nearly 3,800 sustained decreases. The net effect of all the changes was a decrease of nearly £130 per week. The changes of the previous month affected nearly 14,700 workpeople, the net result being a decrease of about £160 per week. During July, 1903, the number affected was over 59,400 workpeople, and the net result a decrease of about £1,900 per week.

The principal changes reported were decreases affecting nearly 1,100 steel workers at Eston and 1,200 bridge builders at Motherwell. Six changes, affecting nearly 2,500 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales; the remainder, affecting nearly 2,800 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, one of these changes, affecting nearly 100 workpeople, being preceded by a dispute causing stoppage of work.

AGRICULTURAL HIRINGS.

Whitsuntide Hirings in Cumberland, Westmorland, and Lancashire.

Information as to the rates of wages agreed upon at the half-yearly hiring fairs held at Whitsuntide in Cumberland, Westmorland and North Lancashire has been received from a correspondent who made special inquiries on behalf of the Department. The report states that the supply of male farm servants was fairly plentiful, owing partly to slackness of employment in other industries, and that many farmers were able this year to re-engage their men at home without going to the hiring fairs. Wages showed a downward tendency in the case of men, but women were scarce and their rates of wages were well maintained.

The following are the rates of wages generally agreed upon for the half-year: Best men, £15 to £20; second-class men, £10 to £15; youths and boys, £4 to £10; best women, £11 to £15; second-class women and girls, £4 to £12. In addition board and lodging is provided.

Spring and Summer Hirings in Scotland.

Information has been received by the Department, from a Correspondent who has made special enquiries, as to the rates of wages agreed upon by farm servants and employers at the principal hiring fairs held in Scotland during the first six months of 1904.

The report states that the supply of men seeking situations was, as a rule, about equal to the demand, and in some districts wages showed a downward tendency. In the great majority of cases, however, there was no change in the rates agreed upon, while exceptionally good men were given slight advances to keep them in their old situations.

In the case of women servants the demand was greater than the supply, and not only were former rates maintained, but advances were secured in a good many instances.

In the Eastern Border counties good men who could bring with them men or women workers got from 17s. to 19s. per week, with free house and garden, some fuel, and 900 to 1,800 yards of potato drill. Men without workers rarely exceeded 17s., and often had to accept 15s. Women got from 10s. to 11s. per week. In the Lothians similar rates prevailed where wages are fixed at a weekly rate, a practice that continues to grow. Unmarried men engaged by the half-year got from £15 to £17, lads from £9 to £12, boys from £4 to £5, and women from £7 to £11, all with board and lodgings. Orramen and cattlemen got quite their old wages, the latter often as much as first ploughmen. At the Dunbar Hiring Fair some reductions of 10s. to 15s. for the half-year were reported.

In the counties of Fife and Stirling wages were practically unaltered. In the South-Western counties there were seldom any quotable changes, such changes in the case of men being downwards, and in the case of women upwards. Ploughmen were getting from £13 to £18, in some cases up to £20, per half-year, with board and lodging or with free house and allowances of food and coals. Young men got from £12 to £15, and women from £7 to £12. At most fairs in the counties of Perth and Forfar wages varied little from former

rates. In a very few cases exceptionally good men remaining in their own places—got a slight increase, rarely more than 10s. for the half-year. In more instances servants going into new places had to submit to a small reduction (from 10s. to 15s. for the half-year). The wages of ploughmen ranged from £14 to £22, of lads from £10 to £12 and of women from £8 to £12 for the half-year, with the usual perquisites.

In the counties of Aberdeen, Banff and Kincardine the wages tended downwards in most districts for average servants changing places, the fall rarely exceeding 10s. for the half-year. The rates of wages in Aberdeenshire were similar to those in Perth and Forfar. In the counties north of the Spey servants were fairly plentiful and wages tended downwards, the decrease ranging from 10s. to 15s. for the half-year. There was, however, no change in shepherds' wages.

GENERAL REPORT ON CENSUS.

IN THE LABOUR GAZETTE for June, 1903, p. 156, the Statistics of Occupations were dealt with on the basis of the Summary Tables issued by the Census Office for England and Wales. The General Report* of that department has now been issued. Among the other subjects treated in this Report three only can be noticed on this occasion.

Growth of the Urban Population.

Taking the Urban Districts of England and Wales, with a population of 10,000 and over, it is found that such urban areas in 1901 contained a population of 21,959,998, while the Rural Districts, with those Urban Districts having less than 10,000 inhabitants, had a population of 10,567,845. In the urban areas referred to the increase in population during the ten years 1891-1901 was 15·8 per cent., while in the remainder of the country it was 5·3 per cent. Thus the urban population as above defined was in 1901 more than twice as great as the rural population, and its rate of growth in the previous ten years was three times that of the rural areas.

There are many rural parts in which actual depopulation has occurred. The rate of decrease was greatest in the rural areas of the counties of Montgomery, Oxford, Cumberland and Rutland.

The mean rate of growth of population in 1891-1901 was greatest (23·2 per cent.) in the 42 Urban Districts, with populations between 50,000 and 100,000. In 24 Urban Districts, with populations between 100,000 and 250,000, it was 17·7 per cent.; in 8 between the limits 250,000 and 700,000, it was 12·1 per cent., and in the County of London it was 7·3 per cent. The higher density of population in the larger towns, which would cause an overflow into adjoining areas, suggests that their slower rate of growth results from this movement.

Among the Urban Districts there were 75 (including London) each of which had in 1901 a population exceeding 50,000. In these 75 towns, in the aggregate, the population increased during the ten years by 14·0 per cent., as compared with 12·2 per cent. for the entire population of England and Wales. Every town shows some increase, except Huddersfield, in which there was a very slight decrease. In 18 towns the rates of increase are below 10 per cent., including the four which are most populous—London, 7·3; Liverpool, 8·8; Manchester, 7·6, and Birmingham, 9·2. The town with the highest rate of growth is East Ham, where the population nearly trebled in the decennium. Most of the high rates of increase are shown in districts adjoining London and Birmingham.

Housing.

Between 1891 and 1901 the number of one-roomed tenements in England and Wales showed a decline of more than 35,000. Tenements of five rooms or more increased in this period from 47·7 per cent. of the total to 53·2 per cent., while the proportion of smaller tenements showed a decline, the largest proportional decline being in one and two-roomed tenements. In 1901 the proportion of the English population living in

five or more rooms was 60·1 per cent., against 54·9 per cent. in 1891; whereas only 1·6 per cent. were living in one roomed tenements, instead of 2·2 per cent. as was the case in 1891. Again the average number of occupants per room fell from 2·23 to 2·02 in the ten years in the case of one-roomed tenements, from 1·73 to 1·64 in the case of two-roomed tenements and from 1·42 to 1·36 in three-roomed tenements. All these figures may be assumed to indicate decreased crowding in the smaller tenements.

Of the total tenements of less than five rooms, 11·9 per cent. were overcrowded (*i.e.* contained more than two occupants per room) in 1901, compared with 15·0 per cent. in 1891. In these overcrowded tenements 8·2 per cent. of the total population were enumerated in 1901, compared with 11·2 per cent. living under similar conditions at the previous Census. Of one-roomed tenements 26·5 per cent. were overcrowded in 1901, compared with 32·2 per cent. in 1891, and of two-roomed tenements, 22·4 per cent., compared with 26·4 per cent. at the previous Census.

The over-crowded tenements were mainly recorded in the Urban Districts. The proportion of the population living in overcrowded conditions was 8·9 per cent. in such districts in 1901, while in the Rural Districts it did not exceed 5·8 per cent.

The proportion of the population living in overcrowded conditions ranged from 0·91 per cent. in the Isle of Wight and 1·05 in West Sussex, to 10·32 in the West Riding, 16·01 in London, 28·48 in Durham, and 32·09 in Northumberland. Speaking generally, in those counties in which coal mining is a prevailing industry much overcrowding prevailed in 1901. For example, in three Rural Districts in the County of Durham the proportions of overcrowded persons to total population were 37, 38, and 39 per cent. respectively.

In London 16·01 per cent. of the total population were living in overcrowded conditions in 1901 (against 19·67 per cent. in 1891), the proportion ranging from less than 3 per cent. in Lewisham to 33 per cent. in Stepney and 35 per cent. in Finsbury. Taking the large towns, the percentage of overcrowded to the total population was lowest in Bournemouth (0·62), Northampton (0·97), Leicester (1·05), Ipswich (1·14), Derby (1·18), Portsmouth (1·19) and Reading (1·23); while it was greatest in Devonport (17·38), Dudley (17·48), Plymouth (20·19), Sunderland (30·10), Newcastle-on-Tyne (30·47), Tynemouth (30·71), South Shields (32·42) and Gateshead (34·54).

Foreign Population.

Of the 32,527,843 persons enumerated in England and Wales, 247,758, or 7·6 per 1,000 of the total population were classified as foreigners by birth and nationality. These foreign subjects were almost exclusively found in the industrial centres and in seaports, and 48 per cent. were resident in six of the Metropolitan Boroughs and in the three cities of Manchester, Liverpool and Leeds. Including London, there were only thirteen cities or towns in England and Wales in which the proportion of foreigners to the general population exceeded 1 per cent.

The highest proportion of foreigners to the total population was in London, where it reached 30 per 1,000. A very large proportion, amounting to 40 per cent. of the whole, were enumerated in the Borough of Stepney, where the proportion to the total population has risen from 57 per 1,000 in 1881 to 182 per 1,000 in 1901. In this Borough a third of the total population were living in an overcrowded condition. The other Boroughs in which the proportion of foreigners was high were Holborn, Westminster, St. Marylebone, Bethnal Green, and St. Pancras.

Only the European foreigners are of numerical importance. Natives of Russia and Russian Poland numbered 82,844, or one-third of the total foreign population. Natives of Germany stand second with 49,133, those of France third with 20,467, and Italians rank fourth with 20,332. During the ten years 1891-1901 the natives of Russia nearly trebled, and those of Italy more than doubled.

With regard to the occupations of the male foreigners, 19,955 were tailors or clothiers, more than

* Census of England and Wales. General Report with Appendices. Cd. 2174. Price 2s. 8d. Eyre and Spottiswoode.

three-fourths of these being natives of Russia or Russian Poland. More than 14 per cent. of all persons engaged in this industry in England and Wales were European foreigners. Omitting seamen, mostly enumerated on vessels in Port on the night of the Census, the next occupation in point of numbers was that of waiters and others engaged in inn and hotel service (not domestic), of whom there were 7,746, or 4.7 per cent. of the total engaged in this occupation. The great majority of these were Germans and Italians. Of cabinet-makers, upholsterers, furniture dealers and French polishers there were 5,405, or 5.2 per cent. of the total enumerated under this occupation. More than three-fifths of these were natives of Russia or Russian Poland. Of the female foreigners 11,808 were domestic indoor servants, mainly from Germany, France or Switzerland. Next came tailoresses and clothiers, of whom there were 4,895, or 4 per cent. of the total women and girls so employed. Natives of Russia and Russian Poland accounted for more than three-fourths of these.

The above figures refer only to England and Wales. Taking the United Kingdom as a whole, 385,835 (0.9 per cent.) of the 41,458,721 persons enumerated in 1901 were born in foreign countries. A considerable number of these were British subjects, but it is impossible to state the total. On the other hand it would appear from foreign Censuses and approximate estimates given in Consular and other returns that the natives of the United Kingdom who at the date of the Census were residing in foreign states numbered approximately 3,000,000, nearly 2,800,000 of these being in the United States and 92,000 in Europe.

WAGES OF FARM LABOUR IN THE UNITED STATES.

ACCORDING to a bulletin recently issued by the Department of Agriculture of the United States the monthly wages of agricultural labourers were higher in 1902 than in any year since 1866 for which the information has been collected. The fluctuations in certain years since 1866 are shown in the following Table :-

Year.	Monthly Wages.				Year.	Monthly Wages.							
	Without board.		With board.			Without board.		With board.					
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		
1866	3	19	6	2	11	7	1895	3	13	9	2	10	1
1875	3	2	1	2	6	2	1899	4	4	4	2	18	8
1885	3	14	11	2	11	5	1902	4	12	3	3	8	4

The practice of boarding farm labourers who are hired for stipulated periods beyond a day is nearly universal.

The above rates apply only to those labourers who are hired by the year or season. In many States, however, owing to the fact that farming is limited to the production of local open field crops, there are considerable periods of the year when no work can be done. In such cases it is more usual to pay labourers by the day or job. The highest daily rates are paid in the great grain States, where, owing to the demands of the harvest, many thousand extra men are required. To secure these men very high rates are offered, but the emergency requirements do not last for many days, and the rates often decline as soon as abundant help is available. Consequently the high rates have little effect on average wages.

The following statement shows the average wages of agricultural labourers, who are paid by the day, for certain years since 1866 :-

Year.	Daily Wages (without board).				Year.	Daily Wages (without board).			
	Ordinary Labour.		During Harvest.			Ordinary Labour.		During Harvest.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
1866	4	5	6	6	1895	3	5	4	9
1875	3	11	6	2	1899	4	3	5	9
1885	3	10	5	10	1902	4	9	6	5

Of late years there has been a great increase in the amount of work done by the job. The reason for this is that smart workers can earn more by working in this way than employers can afford to pay upon an ordinary time basis. For example, in the maize-growing district in the North the farm labourer will often hire by the

month until the maize is ripe, when he gathers it by the bushel, or cuts the growth by the shock. Similarly, in the cotton districts, those who hire by the month do so only during the growth of the plant, holding themselves free for the picking of the cotton by the hundred pounds. In this way competent workers can earn high wages during the busy seasons, and this compensates them to some extent for the months during which no work can be done.

The reports regarding the negro as a farm labourer differ widely, for, while from various districts come reports of neglect, instability and unthrift, numerous reports speak of them as superior to the available white help. These latter reports refer principally to the rice districts of the South, where white labour cannot be acclimatised. Negro women do a great amount of field work, particularly in the cotton districts, and on fruit and vegetable farms. Their wages for general labour are lower than men's wages, but many are employed by the job in hoeing cotton, picking fruit, and especially picking cotton, in which they surpass men.

STRIKE IN THE MEAT PACKING INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE following particulars are based on information furnished by Sir P. Sanderson, H.M. Consul-General at New York, and Mr. T. Erskine, H.M. Acting Consul at Chicago, in a series of despatches to the Foreign Office, bearing various dates from July 14th to August 2nd.

On July 14th 20,000 men employed by meat packing firms in Chicago, and 30,000 employed at similar establishments in other cities in the Chicago Consular district went on strike. A sympathetic strike of all the allied trades employed by the packing firms was subsequently instituted in Chicago, and a further 30,000 men were thereby involved, or 80,000 men in all.

It appears that all agreements of the 28 different stockyard Unions had expired on May 28th, and each Union had put in its demands for new terms, but the whole question gradually resolved itself into that of the wages to be paid to labourers. The demand of these unskilled men was for 10d. an hour, but after three conferences they agreed to take the existing scale of 9½d. The employers refused to pay more than 8½d. per hour, and on June 29th an ultimatum was sent to the firms involved. On July 13th, no answer having been received, notice was given that a strike would be called at noon the next day. Late in the afternoon, the firms suggested arbitration, but it was too late to notify the men, and the strike notice took effect in Chicago. Meanwhile the dispute had spread to New York, and on July 12th, at a meeting of representatives of all the Butchers' Unions in that city, a strike was ordered among the meat cutters, slaughterers, packers, luggers, and teamsters employed by the wholesale packers and butchers, about 4,000 workpeople being concerned.

On July 20th, at a Conference held at Chicago between representatives of the packing firms on the one side and of all the allied trades employed at the stock yards on the other, the following points were agreed upon :-

Wages and working conditions to be submitted to arbitration.

Both sides to abide by the decision of the Board of Arbitration.

Packers to employ as many of the strikers as possible and any employee not re-instated within 45 days to be free to submit his case to the Board of Arbitration for settlement.

Strikers to return to work at the wages received when the strike was called.

Arbitrators to consist of three practical packing house men, one to represent the packers, one the Union, and these two to select the third.

Packers to retain all non-Union employees then at work who wished to remain.

The strikers, both in Chicago and New York, resumed work on July 22nd, but in Chicago the men were again called out on the alleged grounds that the

employers had violated the terms of the above agreement by discriminating against those of the Union strikers who had been prominent in the dispute.

Reporting on August 1st, H.M. Acting Consul at Chicago stated that the large firms, who generally kill 10,400 cattle a day, were killing about 3,000, while the outside "independent" firms (as they are called to distinguish them from the others, who are generally called "The Trust") were killing 9,000 instead of 2,500.

Meat was being rushed out of the plants in an unripe condition, owing to the large firms having to keep up as big a supply as possible, and also because the independent companies had not the necessary refrigerating capacity for their increased killing.

The stock handlers, who work in the yards, take care of the stock on arrival, and feed and water them, had returned to work, so that there should be no complaint on humanitarian grounds.

The packing firms claim the right to run the plants at the lowest wages for which men will work, and say that the price of meat does not authorise such wages as are being paid.

The men claim that practically all the work is done in three days of the week, and that the unskilled labourers do not work more than 35 hours a week. They also state that the labour, cost of killing and dressing a bullock of the average weight of 700 lbs. is 22d. from the yard to the cooling room, or 1½d. per lb.

The men also claim that the packing industry is about the only one that has not suffered by the present depression, and that the employers have taken advantage of the scarcity of employment to try and break the Unions.

During the strike the men employed are being paid 5s. 2d. a day with food and lodging.

So far as concerns New York, the packing houses were reported on August 2nd to be doing a normal amount of business, the second strike not having extended to that city.

According to newspaper reports 3,500 men in the meat trades were called out on August 9th, in response to the request of the President of the Butchers' Union in Chicago. The number on strike in the meat trade in New York at that date was stated to be from five to six thousand.

RECENT CONCILIATION CASES.

(a) UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Steel Workers at Llanelly.

The Board of Trade on July 19th received a joint application on behalf of Messrs. R. Thomas & Co., Ltd., and the British Steel Smelters and Tinplate Workers' Union for the appointment of an arbitrator to fix the rates of wages to be paid in the steel mill department at the Company's works.

The Board have appointed Sir William Markby, K.C.I.E., to act as arbitrator.

(b) NOT UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Iron and Steel Workers at Wishaw and Coatbridge.

At the beginning of November, 1903, about 100 rollers, shearers, heaters, and assistants employed at three iron and steel and tinplate works at Wishaw and Coatbridge struck work on a proposed reduction in the price paid for rolling steel sheets. About 240 labourers and others were thrown out of work in consequence. After a stoppage lasting a month it was agreed to refer the matter to arbitration, and Sheriff Thomson acted as arbitrator.

About twenty years ago an extra allowance was conceded to the operatives when engaged in producing steel sheets, in order to enable them to earn as large a wage as when engaged upon iron. Steel at that time was hard and variable, and not specially made to be turned into sheets. Very much softer steel can, however, now be produced, and the arbitrator in his award recently issued, expresses the opinion that with the softer steel now supplied for sheets the work is at least as easy with steel as with iron, and probably easier. Accordingly he decides that, as claimed by the employers, the rates for working steel sheets should be reduced to the same rates as are at present paid for working iron sheets.

CHANGES IN WAGES AND HOURS IN 1903.

THE Labour Department of the Board of Trade recently issued its Eleventh Annual Report on Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour in the United Kingdom.* The changes dealt with are those of 1903, with preliminary figures for the first half of 1904.

The course of wages has been downwards in each of the years 1901, 1902 and 1903, but wages are still at a higher level than in any of the years 1875-1899. During the last thirty years the lowest point reached was in 1886, when the general level of wages was about 16 per cent. lower than in 1903, and the highest point was in 1900, when it was nearly 4 per cent. above 1903.

The total number of workpeople (exclusive of agricultural labourers, seamen and railway servants) whose rates of wages were reported to have been changed during 1903 was 896,598, compared with 890,356 in 1902 and 932,126 in 1901. Of the total number affected in 1903, 874,721 sustained net decreases amounting to about £39,868 per week, while only 21,327 obtained net increases amounting to about £1,541 per week. The remaining 550 had upward and downward changes during the year which left their wages at the same level at the end as at the beginning. In 1902 the number of workpeople who sustained net reductions was 793,041, the amount of reduction being £78,027, while 91,812 obtained net increases amounting to £5,326 per week; and in 1901, 492,518 workpeople sustained net decreases amounting to about £118,132, and 429,715 obtained net increases amounting to £40,789 per week. In all three years the changes in the coal mining industry were the predominant factor, accounting for 84 per cent., 83 per cent., and 76 per cent. of the total number affected in 1903, 1902, and 1901 respectively.

The net results of the changes during 1901, 1902 and 1903 are shown by groups of trades in the following Table :-

Trade.	Number of Workpeople† whose wages were changed in			Net Amount of Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in the weekly wages of those affected.		
	1901.	1902.	1903.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Building	39,687	15,575	4,638	+ 1,943	+ 926	+ 304
Coal Mining	704,681	735,544	752,190	-57,081	-73,872	-32,488
Iron & Steel	16,098	7,121	9,361	- 5,255	+ 250	- 429
Quarrying	4,971	6,733	3,160	- 298	+ 306	- 222
Iron and Steel Manufacture	70,009	53,493	23,492	-20,344	+ 729	- 1,076
Engineering and Shipbuilding	21,244	32,822	74,680	+ 342	- 2,419	- 4,281
Other Metal Trades	11,063	15,357	1,934	- 1,120	+ 145	- 178
Textile	3,098	2,107	1,021	+ 290	+ 142	+ 18
Clothing	5,409	3,112	3,496	+ 691	+ 291	- 86
Glass, &c., Trades	1,833	86	6,386	+ 9	+ 10	- 600
Other Trades†	25,505	10,555	7,610	+ 1,647	+ 189	+ 199
Employees of Public Authorities	27,628	7,871	8,650	+ 1,833	+ 602	+ 512
Total	932,126	890,356	896,598	-77,343	-72,701	-38,347

It will be seen that the groups mainly affected by changes in wages during the three years have been the coal mining and metal industries, and that the changes have resulted in net decreases of considerable amounts. The Report shows, however, that though 1901-3 have been years of falling wages they were preceded by five years of rising wages, and that in 1900, the last of these years, the addition to wages (£209,000) was greater than the amount lost (£188,000) in the last three years. The Report deals only with changes in the rates of wages, but attention is drawn to the fact that though practically no change in rates of wages took place in the cotton industry in 1903, the earnings of the operatives were considerably diminished in the later months of the year by short time being generally worked owing to the high price of raw cotton.

In 1903, as in 1901 and 1902, the number of workpeople whose changes in wages were preceded by a stoppage of work, formed but an insignificant fraction of

* Cd. 2,199, price 7d. The Report can be obtained through any bookseller, or direct from the publishers, Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, E.C.

† Including workpeople affected by changes during the year, but whose wages stood at the same level at the end as at the beginning.

‡ Exclusive of Agricultural Labourers, Seamen and Fishermen and Railway Servants.

the whole, the percentage affected in 1903 being only 1.5 per cent of the total. Changes affecting 78 per cent. of the total number of workpeople affected were arranged by Conciliation, Arbitration, Wages Boards, Sliding Scales, or other conciliatory agencies. It should be noted, however, that in the above percentages no account is taken of strikes for wages that failed.

The changes in hours of labour recorded in 1903 are stated to have been unimportant, but those which took place resulted in a net reduction. The number of workpeople affected (7,447) was the lowest recorded in any year since these statistics were first collected in 1893.

Preliminary figures are given for the first half of 1904, and these show that wages have continued to decline since the end of 1903.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

THE Departmental Committee appointed to inquire into the law relating to compensation for injuries to workmen have recently issued their Report.*

As regards the extension of the principle of the Workmen's Compensation Acts, 1897, and 1900, the Committee recommend the application of the principle of the Act of 1897 to seamen through an amendment of the Merchant Shipping Act, and suggest a special inquiry in the case of fishermen. They recommend that the benefits of the Act should be extended to carriers, not including foot carriers, to workers in workshops where five or more persons are employed, and to persons employed in the care or management of horses and locomotives, including farriers, and that power should be given to the Home Office to extend after inquiry the application of the Act to other occupations, subject to the approval of Parliament.

Among the recommendations of the Committee with regard to amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act of 1897 are that the Act should be extended so as to cover all building operations, the present limitations as regards height of building, use of scaffolding and employment of machinery being repealed; that the definition of "railway" in the Act should include lines and sidings not used for purposes of public traffic, and also tramways; that the Act should be amended so as to apply directly to employment on docks, wharves, quays, and warehouses, without reference to the provisions of the Factory Act; that "wharf" should be defined as a place for landing or embarking goods or passengers contiguous to water; and that employment on or in or about a warehouse should be defined as employment on or in or about the storage of goods for sale or safe custody by way of trade or for purposes of gain. The Committee consider that the Act should apply to laundries where mechanical power is used, irrespective of the number of persons employed, and to other laundries falling within the operation of the Factory Act, 1901, that is, where in addition to members of the family more than two persons dwelling elsewhere are employed. It is also recommended that the definition of "quarry" should be amended to include all quarries irrespective of depth; and that under "engineering work" should be included road-making and mending, well-sinking and repairing, and other excavation, and also the construction or maintenance of telegraphs, telephones, and other electric appliances.

The Committee recommend that it be enacted that nothing in the Act shall prevent a workman recovering compensation for injury by accident while actually engaged on the duties of his employment by reason only of the fact that such accident did not occur on or in or about a particular place (subject to certain limitations mentioned in the Report), and that in cases where the services of a workman are temporarily lent to another person the workman should have a right to compensation from his own employer.

With regard to "dependants," it is recommended that the definition should be amended to include "brother and sister," and that the law of Scotland as to the persons included under the term should be assimilated to the law of England.

* Cd. 2208. Eyre & Spottiswoode. Price 2s. 2d.

The Committee state that the evidence has led them to the conclusion that the Workmen's Compensation Acts have largely increased the difficulties of old men finding and retaining employment, and that in many cases maimed persons are refused employment at their old trade, although perfectly capable of earning full wages. They recommend that special provision should be made as to the right to and amount of compensation in the case of aged, infirm, and maimed persons, to remove or lessen the difficulty of employing such persons without casting on the employer a liability of such weight as to make it difficult for him to employ this class of labour at all.

With regard to the fixing of the weekly payment in cases of partial incapacity resulting from injury, whether in the first instance or on review, it is recommended that the compensation should be one-half of the difference between the wages earned at the time of the accident and the wages which can or could be earned in the new employment. As regards the lump sum payable by the employer in redemption of the weekly payment, when the latter has been continued for not less than six months, the committee recommend a maximum limit of £500.

The Committee recommend that the law governing the character and functions of the office of medical referee should be revised. They think the medical referee should be a public officer rather than a medical man in practice, and should be remunerated by salary, not by fees. They recommend the appointment by the Home Secretary of a limited number of medical referees for three years, the experiment to be extended if successful, and the medical referees taking their place as members of the permanent Civil Service.

Among other matters dealt with in the recommendations are the choice of remedies open to the workman, notice of accident, claim for compensation and commencement of proceedings, sub-contracting, and medical examination of the injured person.

So far as concerns the Act of 1900 (which relates to agriculture), the Committee recommend that this Act be amended in such a manner as will enable an employer to exonerate himself from liability on proof that he has worked, and *bona fide* intends to work, his farm without any permanent hand, and that the Act shall not apply to casual employment in agriculture (workmen engaged temporarily by the day, or hour, or for a particular job).

PRICES OF IRON.

THE results of the last ascertainties of the selling price of manufactured iron in the North of England, Midlands and Scotland are given in the Table below. It will be seen that as compared with the previous audit prices have fallen generally rather more than 1s. 3d. per ton. Compared with a year ago, however, the fall is much heavier. As a result of these ascertainties wages in the different districts remain unaltered.

In his report on the audit for May, June and July, 1904, relating to the ascertained selling price of Scotch pig iron, the accountant says "there have been no transactions reported to me of sales for cash of Scotch pig iron warrants in the Glasgow Market." He is unable, therefore, to quote a price based on cash transactions, and it is these prices which regulate wages under the sliding scale.

Product and District.	Period covered by last Audit.	Ascertained average selling price per ton.			Decrease (-) of last Audit as compared with	
		Last Audit.	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.
Manufact'rd Iron. North of England— (Rails, plates, bars, and angles)		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		118 5'43	119 10'16	124 11'80	- 1 4'73	- 6 6'37
Midlands— (Bars, angles, tees, hoops, sheets, plates, and strips, &c.)	May-June	127 2'29	128 5'51	137 1'82	- 1 3'22	- 9 11'53
		114 11'06	116 2'11	124 2'41	- 1 3'05	- 9 3'35

PAUPERISM.

Proportion of Men, Women, and Children Relieved.

AN interesting new summary table is given in the half-yearly statement of pauperism* recently issued by the Local Government Board, from which it would appear that the decline in pauperism between 1877 and 1904 is due to a decline in the proportion of women and children paupers per 10,000. The proportion of men paupers per 10,000 of adult males has increased from 229 to 235, while with women the proportion per 10,000 has fallen from 421 to 336, and with children from 251 to 195.

The figures are set out in the following Table at intervals of five years over the period 1877-1902, and for the years 1903 and 1904.

NUMBER OF PAUPERS IN ENGLAND AND WALES (EXCLUSIVE OF VAGRANTS BUT INCLUSIVE OF INSANE PAUPERS).

1st Jan.,	Men.		Women.		Children.	
	No.	Rates per 10,000 of Adult Male Population.	No.	Rates per 10,000 of Adult Female Population.	No.	Rates per 10,000 of Population under 16 years.
1877	164,548	241	330,158	421	234,124	251
1882	184,301	241	345,340	410	270,485	270
1887	200,145	245	345,997	387	271,147	261
1892	192,251	221	332,866	348	259,487	212
1897	223,590	237	368,605	355	232,329	211
1902	225,346	222	372,046	331	214,272	191
1903	234,302	228	378,929	334	219,959	194
1904	243,859	235	385,684	336	224,524	195

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

I.—BREAD.

THE returns as to the price of bread, furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Department, relate to London and 25 large Provincial Towns at the beginning of August, and of each of the twelve preceding months. Though it is not possible to state that the quality of bread referred to is in all cases the same, the figures for each place are believed to be, generally speaking, comparable over the whole period. Other qualities of bread are sold at both higher and lower prices than those quoted in the Table below. The prices selected represent, so far as can be ascertained, the prevailing prices paid at the various places by workpeople for 4 lbs. of ordinary bread of average quality.

Place.	1903.			1904.			Present Price, 2nd Aug., 1904.
	1st Aug.	1st Sept.	1st Oct.	1st Dec.	1st March.	1st June.		1st July.
London ...	d. 4½ & 5	d. 5 & 5½	d. 5 & 5½	d. 5 & 5½	d. 5 & 5½	d. 5 & 5½	d. 4½ & 5
Birmingham ...	4½ & 5	5 & 6	5 & 6	5 & 6	5 & 6	5 & 6	5 & 6
Bolton ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Bristol ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Derby ...	4½ & 5	4½ & 5	4½ & 5	4½ & 5	4½ & 5	4½ & 5	4½ & 5
Gateshead ...	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Huddersfield ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Hull ...	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 to 5	4½ & 5	4½ & 5	4½ & 5
Ipswich ...	5	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Leicester ...	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Liverpool ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Manchester ...	4	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4
Middlesbro' ...	5½	6	6	6	6	6	6
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Norwich ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Nottingham ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Oldham ...	4	4	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Plymouth ...	4½	5	5	5	5	5	5
Potteries ...	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4	4
Wolver'pton ...	5	5½	5½	5½	5½	5	5
Aberdeen ...	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Dundee ...	5½	6	6	6	6	6	6
Edinburgh ...	5½	6	6	6	6	6	6
Glasgow ...	5	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Belfast ...	5	5	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Dublin ...	5½	5½	5½	5½	6	5½	5½

* Pauperism (England and Wales), Half-Yearly Statement, 1st January, 1904. P.P. No. 84, 1904.

† No change was recorded in any of the towns at 2nd November, 1903, or at 1st January, 1st February, 1st April, and 2nd May, 1904, except at Wolverhampton, where the price per 4 lbs. was reduced ½d. (5½d. to 5d.) at 2nd November, 1903, and at Dublin, where the price was reduced ½d. at 1st April, 1904.

As compared with a month ago, the price per 4 lbs. remained the same at all the towns given in the Table, except at Norwich, where the price has been reduced ½d. per 4 lbs.

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

The Table below gives the mean London Gazette price of British wheat, and the average declared value of the wheat and flour imports, for each of the months January, 1903, to July, 1904:—

Month.	1903.	British Wheat.		Imports.	
		Mean London Gazette Price (England and Wales).	Per cwt. s. d.	Wheat. Average Declared Value. Per cwt. s. d.	Wheat-meal and Flour. Average Declared Value. Per cwt. s. d.
January	5 10	6 8½	9 3	9 2½
February	5 11	6 11	9 2½	9 2½
March	5 10½	6 11½	9 2½	9 2½
April	6 0	6 8	9 2½	9 2½
May	6 5	6 9½	9 2½	9 2½
June	6 7½	6 9½	9 2½	9 2½
July	6 11½	6 8½	9 2½	9 2½
August	6 6	6 9½	9 2½	9 2½
September	6 0½	6 9½	9 2½	9 2½
October	6 0	6 9½	9 2½	9 2½
November	6 2	6 9½	9 2½	9 2½
December	6 2½	6 8½	9 2½	9 2½
January ...	1904.	6 3½	6 9½	9 2½	9 2½
February	6 3½	6 10½	9 2½	9 2½
March	6 7½	7 1	10 1½	10 1½
April	6 5½	6 11	9 11	9 11
May	6 3½	6 10½	9 2½	9 2½
June	6 2½	6 10	9 2½	9 2½
July	6 4½	6 9½	9 2½	9 2½

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the Colonies from September 1st, 1903, to July 31st, 1904, amounted to 84,585,100 cwts. (19,736,523 quarters), compared with 76,965,322 cwts. (17,958,575 quarters) in the corresponding eleven months of 1902-3. The imports of wheat-meal and flour in the eleven months September-July, 1903-4, amounted to 18,125,438 cwts., compared with 17,818,280 cwts. from September 1st to July 31st, 1902-3.

POST OFFICE WAGES.

THE report* of the Committee appointed to enquire into the wages of certain classes of Post Office servants has recently been issued. The classes dealt with are Sorters (London), Telegraphists (London), Counter Clerks and Telegraphists (London), Sorting Clerks and Telegraphists (Provincial), and Postmen.

The Committee recommend the welding of the Indoor Staff into one great service, and propose a uniform scale, with allowances to cover the extra cost of living in large towns. As regards this allowance they propose to draw a distinction in favour of the man who has reached an age when it might reasonably be expected that he would marry, making the allowance contingent upon the age of the official and not upon his length of service.

In the case of Postmen, who are at present paid according to various scales and some by fixed wages, the Committee think that in all but the large towns the difference in the cost of living can be satisfactorily met by a graduated scale, in which there are equal variations at the minimum and at the maximum. In towns of over 25,000 inhabitants, however, they propose that the scale should be supplemented by an allowance to all over 26 years of age.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

THE following are among the more interesting legal cases reported in July, especially affecting labour. The accounts are based principally upon reports appearing in newspapers:—

(1) Workmen's Compensation Acts.

WHO IS A "DEPENDANT"? WIFE DESERTED BY HUSBAND. When death results from an injury to a workman from an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, his "dependants" are entitled to compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897. It is provided by the Act that "dependants" means in Scotland, such of the persons entitled according to the law of Scotland to sue the employer for damages or solatium in respect of the death of the workman, as were wholly or in part dependent upon the earnings of the workman at the time of his death.

* Report of Committee on Post Office Wages. Cd. 2170. Price 5½d. Eyre & Spottiswoode.

A miner in the employment of a colliery company was fatally injured in January, 1904, in such circumstances as to make the employers *prima facie* liable for compensation. In July, 1901, the man had deserted his wife, and never afterwards had contributed anything to her support. She was in bad health and had been entirely supported by her mother. After his death the wife of the man claimed compensation under the Act, and the Sheriff-Substitute awarded her £150, holding that in law she was wholly dependent upon the earnings of her husband at the time of his death. The company appealed.

On appeal, the Court of Session held that as the woman had a legal claim to be supported by her husband as long as he was alive, and as she had no fortune of her own, she was in law wholly dependent upon his earnings at the time of his death, and the Sheriff-Substitute was right—*Snaddon v. Robert Addie & Sons (Limited)*, Court of Session, July 15, 1904.

WEEKLY PAYMENT; COSTS AWARDED AGAINST WORKMAN; SET-OFF.
It is provided by the Act that a weekly payment, or a sum paid by way of redemption thereof, shall not be capable of being assigned, charged, or attached, and shall not pass to any other person by operation of law, nor shall any claim be set-off against the same.

A miner employed by a colliery company was injured by accident in April, 1902. The Company agreed to pay him by way of compensation the sum of 15s. 8d. a week, and a memorandum of the agreement was duly registered under the Act. In May, 1903, the Company took proceedings to have the weekly payment reviewed and diminished, but were unsuccessful and were ordered to pay the workman's expenses, which were taxed at £5 15s. 6d. The Company made a second and similar application to the Sheriff's Court, and in October, 1903, the weekly payment was reduced to 10s. 8d. a week as from July 3rd, 1903. In these proceedings it was decided by the Sheriff-Substitute that the Company were entitled to half their expenses, amounting to £13 4s. 1d. There was thus a balance of expenses due to the Company amounting to £7 8s. 7d. Weekly payments were made at the rate of 15s. 8d. a week up to July 3rd, and at the rate of 10s. 8d. from July 3rd to October 30th. The Company then gave the workman notice that they would withhold further payments till the sum due to them for expenses had been paid; and they accordingly stopped payment. The workman charged the Company for payment, and the Company presented a note craving suspension of the charge.

The Court of Session decided that the Company's claim for expenses could not be set off against the weekly payments, as such set-off was clearly forbidden by the Act, and the reasons of suspension were therefore dismissed.—*Rosewell Gas Coal Company (Ltd.) v. M'Vicar*, Court of Session, July 26th, 1904.

(2) Miscellaneous.

COAL MINES REGULATION ACT; CHECKWEIGHER: INTERFERENCE WITH WORKMEN.

It is provided by the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887, that a checkweigher shall not be authorised in any way to impede or interrupt the working of the mine, or to interfere with the weighing, or with any of the workmen, or with the management of the mine, but shall be authorised only to take such account or determine the deductions as provided by the Act. If a checkweigher offends against this provision, to the detriment of the owner, agent or manager of the mine, he may be removed from his post by a Court of Summary Jurisdiction on the complaint of the owner, agent or manager.

A man in addition to being the checkweigher of a mine was the president of the local branch of the miners' union. On March 19th, 1903, he presided over a meeting of the men called together to consider the question of working on play days. On play days no coal was got, and the only work done at the pits was such work as was necessary for the safety of the roads, roofs, ventilation, &c. The meeting was summoned to consider the case of four men who were stopped by the manager of the mine because they had refused to do some work on a play day which the manager considered necessary to keep open the ventilation. At the meeting the checkweigher told these men to attend a meeting at the pit gate to be held early next morning. At this meeting at the pit gate the checkweigher spoke and told the men who had assembled in order to work that they were not to go into the pit, and also told the men that they were not to work on play days. He also announced that on the next morning (November 21st), which was a play day, there would be another meeting at the pit gate, and that the men were to come in their holiday clothes and see who went to work. On the morning of the 21st men who came to the pit to work were stopped by the checkweigher at the pit gate, and persuaded to go home. On the 21st, being a play day, he had no business at all at the pit, as no coal was being got.

The manager then took proceedings before the magistrate to have the checkweigher removed from his post on the ground that he did unlawfully impede or interrupt the working of the mine, and did unlawfully interfere with certain of the workmen employed at the mine and with the management of the mine. The magistrate considered that he had interfered with the workmen, and made an order removing him from his office, but stated a case to enable him to appeal to the High Court. It was argued for the appellant that in what he did he was not acting as checkweigher, but as an officer of the union, and that the Act did not seek to interfere with his freedom of action when not discharging his ordinary functions. On the other side it was contended that the offence created by the Act might be committed at any time or place. The High Court decided that the evidence given was sufficient to support the facts found by the magistrate and to justify the removal of the appellant. The appeal was therefore dismissed.—*Sykes v. Barraclough*, July 15th, 1904, King's Bench Division.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W., from the latest official and other reports, newspapers, etc.)

Canada.

According to the reports of the Canadian Department of Labour "The industrial and labour conditions in Canada [except in British Columbia] during June showed on the whole an improvement over May. This was most pronounced in the province of Ontario, where the cities of Toronto, Guelph, Niagara Falls, St. Catharines, Stratford and London, presented particularly favourable reports. The remaining reports for Ontario and the eastern provinces generally were favourable, the only notable exception being in the case of Sydney, N.S., on account of the strike of the Dominion Iron and Steel Company's employees there, and at Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, where the shut-down in the Lake Superior Company's establishments continues. At Winnipeg, Manitoba, in spite of the extensive developments in progress some congestion in the skilled labour market has occurred as a result of the influx of immigrants," and unskilled labourers have been getting only 15 cents an hour. Later reports show that the present supply of mechanics in Canada is quite sufficient, and that the great strike at Sydney has ceased, having resulted in the defeat of the men, who return to work at the old rate of pay.

There has been a great demand for agricultural labourers in the provinces of Quebec and Ontario; but emigrants going there now can reckon upon a few weeks' work only before the demand ceases for the winter. The lumbering industry and sawmilling are busy in Ontario and Quebec, but not in British Columbia. Coal mining in Nova Scotia shows an increased output, but at the gold mines of Rossland, British Columbia, and at the coal mines of Nanaimo, British Columbia, the number of miners employed has been below the average. There are now reduced fares to all parts of Canada, the fare to Quebec being £3.

Commonwealth of Australia.

There is very little demand for more labour in Australia at the present time, except for female servants and for those with some capital who may eventually become farmers. The minimum wages for jewellers and for journeymen confectioners in Victoria have lately been fixed at 50s. per week of 48 hours.

South Africa.

Emigrants are warned against going to any part of South Africa at the present time in search of work.

Cape Colony.—There is a considerable number of mechanics at Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Kimberley, and other places who are unable to get work. Unskilled and farm work are performed by native or other coloured labourers. There is some demand for female servants, but they should not go out alone.

Natal.—There is considerable activity in the building trades, but there is no demand for more labour, except female servants and agriculturists, who may obtain nominated passages through friends in the Colony. Indifferent and unskilled workmen are especially warned against going in search of employment.

Transvaal.—No one may enter the Transvaal without a permit. There is no improvement in the demand for labour, and many persons are out of employment. The cost of living remains very high. Female servants and other women may procure assisted passages through the South African Colonisation Society, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W. All other persons are warned against going to the Transvaal now in search of work.

Orange River Colony.—No one may enter the Orange River Colony without a permit. There is no demand for more labour, except for a few female servants and other women, who may procure assisted passages through the South African Colonisation Society above mentioned. Residents also in the Colony can obtain these advanced and reduced passages for persons from England. It is officially notified that in view of the large number of candidates already registered, no further applications for appointments under the Government of the Orange River Colony can be entertained.

* Handbooks with maps on the different Colonies may be obtained from the Emigrants' Information Office, at a penny each, post free.

LABOUR ABROAD.

FRANCE.

Employment in June.—No changes of importance were reported during June in the metal trades. Employment in the cotton trade was reported as practically the same as in the preceding month in the Nord department, in Normandy, and in the Roanne district, short time to the extent of one or two days per week being general; there was, however, a resumption of activity in the Vosges, where full time was again being worked. At Reims the busy season in the woollen trade was coming to an end. At Lyons silk weaving (machine) was slightly more animated, but there were many unemployed in the ribbon and trimmings manufacture at St. Etienne and district. In garment-making, especially at Paris, the approach of the slack season began to be felt. Employment revived in the chinaware trade, and at the time of reporting was satisfactory for the whole of the pottery trades. Owing to the prospects of a good grape harvest the coopering trade became busier than it has been for the past two years. Coachbuilding was also fully employed. Seasonal slackness was reported in the printing trades. Employment declined in the leather tanning and dressing trades. In the case of agricultural labourers employment improved considerably in June, many finding work in hay harvesting and vegetable and flower growing; the sulphuration of the vines also created an additional demand for labour.

Of the 189,319 members of 1,009 Trade Unions (not including the Unions of miners in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais districts) which reported to the French Labour Department as to the state of employment during June, 18,921, or 10.0 per cent., were unemployed on the 15th of the month, as compared with 10.7 per cent. in the previous month and 8.0 per cent. in June, 1903.

The following statement shows the percentages of members of Trade Unions reported unemployed in certain trades.

Trade Union.	Percentage reported unemployed in the middle of		
	June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Building Trades:—			
Carpenters and Joiners ...	10.4	7.0	7.0
Other Branches ...	9.2	14.1	8.0
Metal and Engineering Trades ...	6.0	7.2	4.0
Textile Trades ...	10.4	11.5	10.0
Clothing Trades (exclusive of Boot and Shoemaking) ...	10.0	3.0	2.0
Printing Trades:—			
Paris ...	4.5	2.9	7.0
Provinces ...	3.9	3.9	3.0
Leather and Fur Trades:—			
Tanning, Dressing, &c. ...	43.0	35.0	6.0
Boot and Shoemaking ...	12.2	4.9	21.0
Furniture and Upholstery Trades ...	20.0	13.0	11.0
Food Preparation Trades ...	10.8	17.0	12.0

Coal Mining in June.—The average number of days worked per week by miners employed underground in June was 5.63, as compared with 5.82 in the preceding month and 5.48 in June, 1903. Taking surface and underground workers together, 39.60 per cent. worked full time (6 days or over per week), and 52.80 per cent. from 5 to 6 days, the percentages in the previous month being 59.42 and 40.13 respectively.

Labour Disputes in June.—Eighty-two disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in June, as compared with 93 in the previous month, and 51 in June, 1903. The number of persons taking part in 68 of the new disputes was 12,778, as compared with 13,236 participants in 85 disputes in the preceding month, and with 3,763, who took part in 45 disputes in June, 1903. Nineteen of the new disputes occurred in the building trades, 8 in the metal trades, 10 in the textile trades, 27 in transport and warehousing, 5 in the woodworking trades, 2 in agriculture, 2 in the printing trades, 4 in the food preparation trades, 3 in the hide and skin trades, and 2 in trades not falling within any of these groups.

Conciliation and Arbitration in June.—Fifteen cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department

* *Bulletin de l'Office du Travail* (Journal of the French Labour Department).

in June, the initiative being taken in 6 cases by the Justice of the Peace, in 6 by the workpeople, in 1 by the employer alone, and in 1 by the employers and workpeople jointly, information on this point is not given as to the remaining dispute. In 12 cases committees of conciliation were formed, resulting in the settlement of 11 of the disputes; in the remaining case the workpeople eventually abandoned their claims and returned to work. As to the 3 cases in which no committees were formed, this was due in 2 instances to the employers refusing the mediation offered, and, in the other case, to the workpeople being summoned before the Council of Prud'hommes for an alleged infraction of their contract with the employers.

BELGIUM.

Legal Reduction of Hours of Labour of Women and Children in Factories.—By Royal Decree, dated July 6th, 1904, it is provided that young persons under 16 and girls and women from 16 to 21 years of age shall not be employed for more than 11 hours per day in the flax, hemp, and jute industries, or for more than 66 hours per week (with a maximum of 11½ hours on any one day) in the cotton industry. This Decree became operative from August 1st, 1904.

Previously, the maximum duration of the working day for these classes of persons was 11½ hours per day in all the four branches of industry referred to.

AUSTRIA.

Employment in June.—According to reports made to the Austrian Labour Department by public and private labour registries, relief stations and other agencies for procuring employment, the number of applications for employment per 100 situations offered was as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
June, 1904 ...	181	95	143
May, 1904 ...	184	100	145
June, 1903 ...	225	95	178

Labour Disputes in June.—Thirty-six disputes (including one lock-out) were reported to the Austrian Labour Department as having begun in June, the number of workpeople taking part in 35 of these being 5,075. Nine of the disputes occurred in the building trades, 5 in mining, 7 in the metal and engineering trades, 2 in the textile trades, 5 in the pottery and glass trades, 3 in the woodworking trades, 2 in the food preparation trades, 1 in the paper trades, 1 in the leather and hides trades, and one among gardeners. In 31 cases the results of the disputes were reported; and of these, 8 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 10 in favour of the employers, and 13 were compromised.

Strike at Petroleum Works at Boryslav.—A despatch to the Foreign Office from Sir F. R. Plunkett, H.M. Ambassador at Vienna, dated July 19th, announces the outbreak of a strike on July 8th among the workmen employed in the petroleum mines at Boryslav in Eastern Galicia. The object of the strikers, who numbered about 3,000, was to obtain better conditions of pay and lodging, and a reduction of the daily hours of labour from 12 to 8 hours. The situation became threatening in consequence of the overflow of crude oil from the borings, and the consequent danger to the works. The Governor of Galicia proceeded in person to the spot in order to use his influence towards a settlement of the dispute. The ensuing negotiations between the employers and workpeople were, however, without result, the men insisting on the introduction of the 8-hours' system, which the owners stated they were unable to accord.

According to notices in the daily press the dispute came to an end on August 8th. The Government guaranteed the provision of better dwellings, and of a water supply, also the erection of a hospital within a short time. The 8-hours' day was not granted, but the Government ordered an interval of two hours during the 12 hours.

* *Revue du Travail* (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).

† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Austrian Labour Department.

GERMANY.

*Employment in June.**—According to the review of the state of employment prepared by the German Labour Department, on the basis of reports obtained from various sources (including Employers' Associations, Chambers of Commerce, Public Labour Bureaux, and Sick and Invalidity Insurance Funds), the industrial labour market as a whole showed no alteration from the relatively favourable situation of the previous month. No changes of importance were reported, apart from the seasonal fluctuations in certain industries, the effects of the season in holiday resorts, and the beginning of agricultural operations, the last having caused a certain amount of labour to be drawn away from the towns. The slackness of work in coal-mining, especially in the Ruhr district, still continued. The metal and engineering trades were in a generally favourable condition, and the electrical trades continued to show the satisfactory state of activity reported in the preceding month. The textile trades were hampered by fluctuations in the price of raw materials; in certain branches at Crefeld the state of employment at the time of reporting was distinctly unfavourable. The demand for labour, as measured by the returns of the labour registries, was decidedly brisk.

Employment returns were supplied to the German Labour Department by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of 547,525 for the quarter ended June 30th, as compared with 446,712 at the end of March last, and 213,962 at the end of June, 1903. According to these returns 10,485 workpeople, or 1.9 per cent. of the total membership, were unemployed on June 30th, this percentage being the same as at the end of March last, whilst at the end of June, 1903, it was 3.2. The trades most largely represented in these returns were the metal, engineering and printing trades (and also the woodwork-ing trade, for which the returns are incomplete.) The number and percentage of members unemployed on June 30th and March 31st respectively, in the three principal Unions or Federations in the trades for which the information is complete were as follows:—

	Total Membership.		Unemployed Membership.			
	June 30th, 1904.	Mar. 31st, 1904.	Total.		Per cent. of Membership.	
			June 30th, 1904.	Mar. 31st, 1904.	June 30th, 1904.	Mar. 31st, 1904.
1. Federation of Metal Workers, (Headquarters, Stuttgart)	160,141	160,141	2,489	2,297	1.6	1.4
2. Federation of German Engineers and Metal Workers, (Headquarters, Berlin)	39,191	34,880	358	347	0.9	1.0
3. Federation of German Book Printers (Headquarters, Berlin)	34,794	35,374	2,378	1,405	6.8	4.0
Total of above Federations	234,126	230,395	5,225	4,049	2.2	1.8

Disputes in July.—According to *Der Arbeitsmarkt* 53 disputes began in Germany during July, as compared with 67 in the preceding month. Of these 18 occurred in the building trades, 9 in the metal and engineering trades, 5 in the textile trades, 2 in the clothing trades, 2 in transport, 11 in the woodwork-ing trades, 3 in the food, &c., trades, and 1 each in the mining, chemical and leather trades.

ITALY.

Dispute at the Flour and Macaroni Mills at Torre Annunziata.—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated July 8th, Sir F. Bertie, H. M. Ambassador at Rome, reports the termination of the dispute with regard to wages at the 57 flour and macaroni mills at Torre Annunziata (see May GAZETTE, p. 138). The employment of non-union labour having presented difficulties, and all attempts at arbitration having failed, the Employers' Federation finally offered to engage a proportion of the men at the former rate of wages, failing which it notified to the authorities that all the mills would have to be

* *Reichs-Arbeitsblatt* (Journal of the German Labour Department).

definitely closed. When the employers proceeded to take steps for the final closing of the mills, the men were persuaded to accept the employers' terms, and the strike was brought to an end after having lasted nearly three months.

Strike of Bakers at Rome.—In despatches to the Foreign Office dated July 16th and 19th, Sir Rennell Rodd, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Rome, reports a strike of the bakers at that city on July 11th. The men claimed that part of their remuneration in kind should be paid in money, and that the amount of this payment should be 9½d. per day for all classes of workpeople; they also demanded one day's rest in seven. The employers offered 9½d. per day to skilled, and 5½d. to unskilled workmen, and two free days (consecutive) per month. The strike ended on July 19th, a compromise having been brought about at a joint meeting of the employers and work-people under the presidency of the Syndic of Rome. The men secured certain ameliorations in the tariff of remuneration agreed upon in 1897, and established their title to two days' rest every fortnight, during which time each man going off duty is to provide a competent substitute. The Employers' Association undertook to do its best to provide for the re-admission of all the men who had been on strike. The employers accepted and recognised the institution of an autonomous labour bureau, from which they undertook to engage their men, and they will contribute to its support.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK CONSULAR DISTRICT.

Disputes in the Building Trades.—In a series of despatches to the Foreign Office and the Board of Trade, dating from July 19th to August 9th, H.M. Consul-General and the British Acting Consul-General at New York report upon a number of disputes which took place in the building trades at that city and at Manhattan.

At the latter place, on July 16th, the Building Trades Employers' Association ordered a lock-out of all the carpenters (some 5,000 to 6,000) employed by the Master Carpenters, on the ground that, contrary to the terms of a recent agreement, certain members of the Carpenters' Union had struck without referring the matter in dispute to arbitration. On August 2nd, a dispute was reported as having arisen at New York between the same Employers' Association and the Building Trades Alliance respecting the supply of some stone by a firm which was considered a non-Union firm. The matter having been referred to the General Arbitration Board, and dismissed as having no merit, the Building Trades Alliance ordered a general strike on the building where the stone was being used, and all trades employed there stopped work except bricklayers and ironworkers. A telegram dated August 9th reported the locking-out of 30,000 Union men in New York by the Building Trades Employers' Association in connection with this dispute.

On July 26th, at New York, the Building Trades Alliance had ordered a strike of 1,600 out of 2,300 men employed on the construction of a subway. The cause in this case appears to have been that the employers had agreed that only painters who were members of the Central Federated Union should be employed on the subway. The Amalgamated Society of Painters (who were not members of the Central Federated Union) demanded an equal distribution of the painting work, and on refusal of the contractors to violate their agreement, all the trades belonging to the Union were called out.

Strike of Tailors and Cutters.—Under date of July 29th, H.M. Acting Consul-General reported the termination of the strike of tailors and cutters to which reference was made in the July GAZETTE (page 202). The men have failed in their object, which was the restriction of employment to Union labour.

CHICAGO CONSULAR DISTRICT.

Strike in the Meat-Packing Industry.—(An account of the origin and development of this dispute will be found on page 228).

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—BUILDING TRADES; COAL MINING.

Other Disputes.—The following further disputes are mentioned in a despatch to the Foreign Office prepared by Mr. T. Erskine, Acting British Consul at Chicago, under date of August 1st:—A strike of 800 engineers (began on May 1st) with reference to the delimitation of work; a strike of 1,400 woodworkers (began in June) for the recognition of their union; a strike of 750 garment workers (male and female) over the "closed shop" question; a strike of marble setters against handling marble from Non-Union quarries; and a strike of miners of soft coal at Ziegler (Ill.).

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

BUILDING TRADES.

ACCORDING to returns supplied by 68 Employers' Associations whose members are estimated to employ about 83,500 building operatives of all classes, and by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of about 180,000, employment in the building trades generally continued dull during July, and on the whole showed little change as compared with June. It was, however, rather worse than a year ago.

With bricklayers employment is reported as dull, and about the same as a month ago and a year ago. It is moderate with masons in England, but dull in Scotland. With carpenters and joiners employment is bad. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union carpenters and joiners was 5.7 at the end of July, compared with 6.3 in June, and 3.3 a year ago.

Employment with painters generally has been dull, and about the same as a month ago in England, but worse in Scotland. It is worse generally than a year ago. With plasterers and plumbers employment has been bad. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union plumbers was 10.4 at the end of July, compared with 9.9 at the end of June, and 6.7 a year ago.

With slaters and tilers in England and Ireland employment continued dull, but in Scotland they were fairly well employed.

The Table given below shows the proportion of unemployed carpenters and joiners and plumbers in the principal districts according to the returns of certain Trade Unions.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of July, 1904*	Percentage of Members of Unions returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Percentage for July, 1904, as compared with a	
		July, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.				
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	7,030	6.7	7.9	4.3	−1.2	+2.4
Northern Counties and Middlesbrough	6,012	8.7	9.4	5.8	−0.7	+2.9
Lancashire and Cheshire	10,160	4.9	5.4	2.6	−0.5	+2.3
Yorkshire	4,938	4.8	6.8	3.5	−2.0	+1.3
East Midlands	2,988	3.6	4.7	2.5	−1.1	+1.1
West Midlands	4,350	3.8	4.9	1.9	−1.1	+1.9
Eastern Counties	1,133	5.5	5.9	5.1	−0.4	+0.4
S. and S.W. Counties	5,705	4.5	3.6	2.0	+0.9	+2.5
Wales and Monmouth	1,812	3.0	3.4	2.8	−0.4	+0.2
Other Districts	614	2.1	4.2	1.8	−2.1	+0.3
SCOTLAND	5,384	7.7	7.2	3.2	+0.5	+4.5
IRELAND	4,859	6.2	7.3	3.7	−1.1	+2.5
UNITED KINGDOM	55,005	5.7	6.3	3.3	−0.6	+2.4
PLUMBERS.						
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	911	11.4	9.3	6.7	+2.1	+4.7
Northern Counties and Middlesbrough	1,625	9.8	9.2	8.7	+0.6	+1.1
Lancashire and Cheshire	2,640	10.6	10.5	7.2	+0.1	+3.4
Yorkshire	971	10.9	10.8	6.1	+0.1	+4.8
East Midlands	682	7.8	10.6	4.7	−2.8	+3.1
West Midlands	489	7.6	11.2	4.9	−3.6	+2.7
Eastern Counties	110	4.5	2.7	1.6	+1.8	+2.9
S. and S.W. Counties	487	7.8	5.5	5.4	+2.3	+2.4
Wales and Monmouth	280	3.7	6.4	9.4	−0.7	−3.7
Other Districts	50	13.3	6.7	8.1	+5.6	+5.2
SCOTLAND	1,930	12.6	10.3	5.8	+2.3	+6.8
IRELAND	636	11.5	11.6	7.6	−0.1	+3.9
UNITED KINGDOM	10,821	10.4	9.9	6.7	+0.5	+3.7

* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

The returns received from Employers' Associations show that employment generally was dull, and rather worse than a year ago.

London.—Employment in London shows no improvement as compared with a month ago, and short time continues to be worked. Returns received by the Trade Correspondent from 67 employers show that in the last week of July they paid wages to 13,441 workpeople of all classes, as compared with 13,834 in June, and 13,456 in July, 1903.

Northern Counties.—Employment in this district shows little change as compared with a month ago. On the Tyne masons report employment as steady, and on the whole good; in other branches it has been dull. On the Wear it has been moderate with plumbers, and slack in other branches. The dispute in the Tees and Hartlepool district still continues, and employment has been affected on this account.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment in this district continues dull generally. In the Bolton district a slight improvement is reported; in the Blackburn and Burnley districts employment is stated to have been fair on the whole. In Manchester and Liverpool employment in most branches has been dull or bad.

Yorkshire.—Employment generally in this district continues dull. In Leeds in most branches it continues slack; in the Huddersfield and Bradford districts it is quiet. In Sheffield plumbers report employment as slack, but in other branches there has been a slight improvement. At Barnsley all branches are fairly busy. Painters at Hull report employment as fair; masons as moderate; other branches as slack or bad.

East Midland Counties.—Employment in this district continues dull. Reports received from Derbyshire, Leicester, Northampton and Nottingham all describe employment as being slack or bad generally.

West Midland Counties.—In the Potteries district employment is reported as bad; in the Birmingham district and at West Bromwich as quiet. At Wolverhampton employment with painters has been good, with other branches it has been bad. In the Walsall and Dudley districts it has been dull.

Eastern Counties.—In Norfolk and Cambridge employment continues slack. In Suffolk and Essex it has been quiet generally.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—Employment generally in this district is dull, and shows little change compared with a month ago.

Wales and Monmouthshire.—In North Wales employment has been quiet. In South Wales and Monmouthshire employment on the whole has been moderate.

Scotland.—Employment generally continues dull. In the Glasgow district it has been somewhat affected by the masons' dispute.

Ireland.—In Dublin employment with bricklayers, carpenters and plasterers has been dull or bad, but other branches shown an improvement. At Belfast it is quiet; at Cork it is fair in most branches.

COAL MINING.

[NOTE.—The following figures only show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries included in the returns received. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed at these collieries worked the whole number of days.]

EMPLOYMENT in this industry shows a slight falling off both as compared with a month ago and a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed at collieries which furnished returns for both periods was about one per cent. less than in June, but about 1.4 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Returns received relating to 1,346 pits, employing 537,541 workpeople show that the average number of days worked per week by the collieries during the four weeks ended July 23rd was 4.79, as compared with 4.95 in June, and 4.84 a year ago. The total possible

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—COAL MINING; OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

working time in each of these three periods was reduced to about the same extent by holidays.

The large decrease in the average number of days worked in Cumberland is mainly due to a dispute which was in progress during the month. In Scotland employment was affected by the July holidays.

Of the 537,541 workpeople included in the returns, 299,507 or 55·7 per cent. were employed at pits working 20 or more days during the four weeks ending July 23rd, 1904, as compared with 61·7 per cent. in June, and 57·5 in July, 1903.

In the Table below the average time worked by the pits in the various districts is shown for the three periods specified:—

District.	No. of Workpeople employed in July, 1904, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average No. of Days worked per week by the Collieries in Four Weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in July, 1904, as compared with	
		July 23rd, 1904.	June 25th, 1904.	July 25th, 1903.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.						
Northumberland ...	38,844	5'38	5'30	5'24	+ '08	+ '14
Durham ...	104,694	5'21	5'31	5'37	- '10	- '16
Cumberland ...	6,509	4'27	5'25	5'20	- '98	- '93
Yorkshire ...	75,833	4'58	4'57	4'70	+ '01	- '12
Lancashire and Cheshire...	49,350	4'29	4'51	4'41	- '22	- '12
Derbyshire ...	37,953	3'82	3'98	4'22	- '16	- '40
Nottingham and Leicester	25,426	3'74	3'89	3'92	- '15	- '18
Staffordshire ...	27,311	4'15	4'51	4'17	- '36	- '02
Salop, Worcester, and Warwick ...	10,008	4'11	4'51	4'32	- '40	- '21
Gloucester and Somerset...	8,160	4'27	4'41	4'35	- '14	- '08
North Wales...	10,979	4'20	4'74	4'66	- '54	- '46
South Wales and Mon. ...	103,360	5'65	5'64	5'70	+ '01	- '05
ENGLAND & WALES ...	498,427	4'82	4'94	4'87	- '12	- '05
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland ...	18,308	4'33	5'05	4'39	- '72	- '06
The Lothians ...	4,590	5'07	5'58	5'06	- '51	+ '01
Fife ...	15,565	4'63	5'02	4'62	- '39	+ '01
SCOTLAND ...	38,463	4'84	5'10	4'85	- '86	- '01
IRELAND.						
United Kingdom ...	837,541	4'79	4'95	4'84	- '16	- '05

Reports received from Local Correspondents and others show that in Northumberland steam coal and house coal pits worked an average of rather less than 5½ days per week. In Durham employment was moderate, house, manufacturing, gas and coking coal pits averaged 5'18, 5'17, 5'3 and 5'2 days per week respectively. With coke yard workers employment has been dull.

In the Leeds house coal pits 3 days per week has been worked; at Morley and Castleford 4 days per week has been worked, but a number of miners in these districts are unemployed. In the Bradford and Huddersfield district employment is quiet, a large number of men working only 2 or 3 days per week. In the Sheffield, Barnsley and Rotherham district an average of about 4½ days has been worked, and about 5 per cent. of the colliery surface men are idle.

In Lancashire employment is slack generally.

In Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire employment is slack, about 3¼ days per week being worked. In Derbyshire there was a falling-off as compared with June. On Cannock Chase employment is bad, only about 2 days per week being worked. In South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire 3½ to 4 days per week was worked. In Shropshire employment is fair.

In the Forest of Dean employment is bad. In the Radstock district it is fair, but a number of men are idle owing to a dispute. In the Bristol district it is dull.

In North Wales employment is slack.

In Scotland, apart from the July holidays, a good deal of short time was worked.

The Exports of coal, coke, and patent fuel during July amounted to 4,191,599 tons, as compared with 4,423,358 tons in June, and 4,341,998 tons in July, 1903.

OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

INFORMATION has been received from 74 firms employing over 18,000 workpeople, from 6 Employers' Associations, from a Trade Union, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment in July continued good in iron and shale mines; moderate in lead, tin, and copper mines, and in slate and limestone quarries; and good generally with settmakers. It was fair with china clay workers.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry continued good. The average time worked shows a slight decrease, as compared with a month ago, and a slight increase as compared with a year ago. The number of workpeople employed during July was 1·6 per cent. less than a month ago, and 2·5 per cent. less than a year ago. During the four weeks ended 23rd July, the average number of days worked per week by the 129 mines and openworks covered by the returns received from employers was 5'74, as compared with 5'90 in June, and 5'69 a year ago.

The following Table summarises the returns received:—

Districts.	No. employed in July, 1904, at the Mines included in the Table.	Average Number of Days worked per week by the Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in July, 1904, as compared with	
		July 23rd, 1904.	June 25th, 1904.	July 25th, 1903.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND—						
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	4,608	5'94	5'95	5'92	- '01	+ '02
Cleveland ...	7,010	5'72	5'93	5'70	- '21	+ '02
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire ...	910	5'68	5'69	5'70	- '01	- '02
Northamptonshire	599	5'78	5'74	5'89	+ '04	- '11
Staffordshire and Shropshire ...	1,011	5'69	5'86	5'49	- '17	+ '20
Other places in England...	131	6'00	5'93	5'87	+ '07	+ '13
Total, England	14,269	5'79	5'91	5'77	- '12	+ '02
SCOTLAND ...	958	4'98	5'73	4'71	- '27	+ '27
IRELAND ...	126	5'91	6'00	6'00	- '09	- '09
Total and Averages	15,353	5'74	5'90	5'69	- '16	+ '05

Of the 15,353 workpeople covered by the returns, 14,032, or 91·4 per cent., were employed in mines working 22 or more days during the four weeks ended 23rd July, 1904, as compared with 96·2 per cent. a month ago, and 85·0 per cent. in July, 1903.

Shale Mining.—Employment with shale miners continued good. Returns received relating to 25 mines show that in July 2,831 men were employed, as compared with 2,730 a month ago, and 2,582 a year ago. The average weekly number of days worked by the mines in the four weeks ended 23rd July was 5'50, as compared with 5'74 in June, and 5'53 a year ago.

Lead, Tin, and Copper Mining.—Employment in the lead, tin and copper mines in Devon and Cornwall continued fair generally. In North Wales lead miners were steadily employed.

Quarrying.

Slate.—Slate quarrymen in North Wales were fully employed. In the Argyllshire and West of England slate quarries employment was fair.

Limestone.—Employment was good in Cumberland, in the Upper Weardale district, and at Westgate (Durham). It showed improvement at Stanhope (Durham). It was moderate in Derbyshire, and in the Somerset blue lias quarries. In Devon and Cornwall it was dull generally, and in North Wales it was good.

Granite.—Employment with granite quarrymen continued fairly good in Leicestershire, dull generally in Devon and Cornwall, good in North Wales, and fair in Scotland.

Other Stone.—Employment with stone quarrymen in the Newcastle and Gateshead district was fairly good. In the

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—QUARRYING; PIG IRON; IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

Haslingden district quarrymen were fully employed. At Barnsley employment was fairly good; at Normanton full time was worked; and at Wickersley grindstone makers continued fairly busy. Chert quarrymen in Derbyshire were fairly well employed. At the building and grindstone quarries in the Rowsley district employment continued bad. In the Clee Hill (road material) quarries and in the North Wales sandstone quarries it was good. It was also good in the Forest of Dean quarries. Employment with quarrymen in the West of England district was dull. In Forfarshire it continued bad, with much short time.

Settmaking.—Employment was good with settmakers in the Clee Hill, Sheffield and Leicester districts, and in North Wales. In Scotland it continued fair at Airdrie, and was good in Aberdeenshire and in the Edinburgh district.

China Clay.—Employment with china clay workers in the Lee Moor (Devon) district was fair. In the St. Austell district scarcity of water hindered work at some of the pits during part of the month.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

RETURNS have been received from Employers, from a Trade Union, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment in this industry in England shows a falling off compared with a month ago, and is much below the level of a year ago. In Scotland employment continues steady.

Returns relating to the works of 112 ironmasters show that five furnaces in the Midlands and three in Cumberland were damped down or blown out during the month, leaving 298 furnaces in blast at the end of July as compared with 306 in June, and 321 in July, 1903. The number of workpeople employed at the works included in the returns is estimated at about 21,100.

The following Table shows by districts the number of furnaces in blast at the works included in the returns in the three periods specified:—

Districts.	Number of Furnaces, included in the returns, in Blast at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in July, 1904, as compared with	
	July, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES—					
Cleveland ...	77	77	79	...	- 2
Cumberland & Lancs. S. and S.W. Yorks...	30	33	39	- 3	- 9
Derby & Nottingham	13	13	16	...	- 3
Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton	36	36	37	...	- 1
Stafford & Worcester	24	25	26	- 1	- 2
S. Wales & Monmouth	28	32	32	- 4	- 4
Other districts ...	13	13	16	...	- 3
Returned from England & Wales	227	235	252	- 8	- 25
RETURNED FROM SCOTLAND ...					
Total furnaces included in returns	71	71	69	...	+ 2
Total furnaces included in returns	298	306	321	- 8	- 23

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.*

EMPLOYMENT in July showed a slight decline as compared with June, and was not quite so good as a year ago. At the 194 works for which returns were furnished by employers 73,613 workpeople were employed during the week ended 23rd July, a decrease of 297 as compared with a month ago, and of 602 as compared with July, 1903. The total volume of employment, as estimated by the total number of shifts worked by all workpeople, was 1·1 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 1·3 per cent. less than a year ago.

* Including iron puddling and rolling and steel making and rolling.

Number Employed.

The following Table shows the changes in the numbers employed in England and Wales, and in Scotland:—

District.	Numbers employed in week ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in July, 1904, as compared with	
	July 23rd, 1904.	June 25th, 1904.	July 25th, 1903.	A month ago.	A year ago.
England and Wales ...	61,565	61,829	62,377	- 264	- 812
Scotland ...	12,048	12,081	11,838	- 33	+ 210
Total ...	73,613	73,910	74,215	- 297	- 602

Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

The Table below relates to the number of shifts worked by 90 per cent. of the workpeople referred to in the preceding Table. The average number of shifts worked per man in the week ended July 23rd was 5'25, as compared with 5'29 in the preceding month, and with 5'27 in the week ending July 25th, 1903. It is to be observed that the figures for July last and for a year ago were influenced (especially in Scotland) by the holiday season.

Number of Shifts worked.	Percentage of workpeople who worked the shifts stated in the first column during the week ended		
	July 23rd, 1904.	June 25th, 1904.	July 25th, 1903.
Under 5 per week ...	17·8	18·7	13·8
5 per week ...	31·7	27·5	36·3
5½ per week ...	1·4	1·1	1·1
6 per week ...	48·5	51·9	47·6
Over 6 per week ...	0·6	0·8	1·2
Total ...	100·0	100·0	100·0

On the basis of the above Table the total number of shifts worked by all workpeople covered by the returns was approximately 386,530 in the last week of July, 1904, as compared with 390,820 and 391,440 in the corresponding periods of June, 1904, and July, 1903, respectively.

The following reports relating to the different branches of the iron and steel manufacturing industry have been furnished by Local Correspondents and others:—

Tyne and Wear District.—Employment improved with iron and steel workers. Plate mills at Consett and Newburn were fully employed, cogging mills at Jarrow fairly so. Bar, angle, and sheet mills at Jarrow worked less than full time; steel smelters report employment as good; forgemen on the Wear as fairly good; finished iron and steel workers as fair.

Tees and Hartlepool.—Employment generally was good and about the same as a month ago, but not so good as a year ago. At Hartlepool employment at iron and steel works was good, at rail mills quiet. Employment at metal expansion works is reported as good, at chair and pipe foundries as fair, in other departments as moderate.

South Yorkshire.—Steel smelters in the Sheffield district report a slight improvement, but were still slack; at Scunthorpe employment was fair. Steel workers at Leeds report no improvement, most works being only partially employed; at Parkgate they were fairly busy, at Rotherham and Iccles quiet. Ironworkers were slack at Parkgate, moderately employed at Rotherham and Masbro'. Tyre, axle, and railway-spring makers were slack.

Midlands.—In South Staffordshire steel smelters were working full time. At steel mills and forges there was a slight improvement. In Shropshire employment was quiet on the whole. Iron workers at West Bromwich and Smethwick report employment as worse than a month ago; the steel trade was quiet, as in June. Steel smelters at Hanley report employment as better than in the last six months. In Derbyshire iron and steel

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—IRON AND STEEL WORKS; TINPLATE WORKS; SHIPBUILDING.

rolling-mills were working short time. Malleable iron workers in this county were fairly well employed.

South Wales.—Employment was good for steel smelters, except at a few works where six instead of eight hour shifts were being worked.

Scotland.—Steel smelters at Parkhead report some short time. Employment at iron and steel works was affected by holidays, but was otherwise good.

TINPLATE WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT in the tinplate industry shows a decline as compared with June, but is better than a year ago. The supply of labour was generally equal to the demand.

At the end of July, 354 mills were working, as compared with 363 at the end of June, and 332 a year ago. At the 75 works open, 53 had all their mills in operation, while the remaining 22 works had 98 mills going out of a total of 151. The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 354 mills was 17,700.

The following Table shows the number of mills at the works which were giving employment, full or partial,* at each of the three periods:—

	No. of Works open.	No. of Mills in such Works.		
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Works giving full employment ...	53	256	...	256
Works giving partial employment ...	22	95	53	151
Total at end of July, 1904* ...	75	354	53	407
<i>Corresponding Total for June, 1904*</i> ...	<i>74</i>	<i>363</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>403</i>
<i>Corresponding Total for July, 1903*†</i> ...	<i>69</i>	<i>332</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>397</i>

The Exports of tinplates and blackplates from the United Kingdom in the months covered by the above Table are summarised below:—

	Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets (Iron or Steel).			Black Plates for Tinning (Iron or Steel).		
	July, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.	July, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.
To United States ...	Tons. 7,007	Tons. 7,268	Tons. 4,679	Tons. —	Tons. 1	Tons. 41
„ Other Countries ...	17,986	23,235	22,787	3,942	6,279	6,736
Total ...	24,993	30,503	27,466	3,942	6,280	6,777

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 7 Employers' Associations, 2 large Companies, 6 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment, on the whole, continues bad, and is worse than a year ago.

Branches of Trade Unions with 57,142 members had 7,354 (or 12.9 per cent.) unemployed at the end of July, as compared with the same percentage at the end of June, and with 10.5 per cent. at the end of July, 1903. The districts in which the percentage of unemployed was greatest were the East of Scotland, the Bristol Channel Ports, the Clyde and the Mersey, while it was lowest on the South Coast, the Thames and Medway, and Wear districts.

As compared with a month ago, the figures show an improvement in the East of Scotland, Humber, Thames, and Bristol Channel districts, while on the Clyde and at Belfast a decline is shown in employment. As compared with a year ago, an improvement is shown on the Wear and in East Scotland, but there is a falling off in nearly

*It will be understood that, in addition to the works returned as giving full or partial employment, a certain number of tinplate works were wholly idle at each of the dates to which the returns relate.
†Revised figures.

every other district, the decline being most marked at Belfast and on the Humber.

The following Table shows the percentages of unemployed Trade Union members in the various districts:—

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of July, 1904 included in the returns.*	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in Percentage for July, 1904, as compared with a	
		July, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tyne and Blyth ...	9,232	12.2	11.9	11.6	+ 0.3	+ 0.6
Wear ...	4,768	9.1	9.5	11.8	– 0.4	– 2.7
Tees and Hartlepool ...	4,881	10.4	11.1	10.4	– 0.7	–
Humber ...	2,427	12.5	15.0	4.9	– 2.5	+ 7.6
Thames and Medway ...	4,512	8.7	12.0	5.2	– 3.3	+ 3.5
South Coast ...	3,995	5.3	4.7	2.6	+ 0.6	+ 2.7
Bristol Channel Ports ...	2,721	19.4	22.6	19.0	– 3.2	+ 0.4
Mersey ...	4,107	17.0	17.5	13.8	– 0.5	+ 3.2
Clyde ...	12,019	17.0	14.4	12.2	+ 2.6	+ 4.8
Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen ...	2,213	23.9	27.7	25.9	– 3.8	– 3.0
Belfast ...	2,611	12.4	8.9	5.9	+ 3.5	+ 8.5
Other Districts ...	2,958	5.6	7.0	4	– 1.4	+ 1.4
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which district figures are not available)	87,142	12.9	12.9			+ 2.4

The following is a summary of the reports received from all sources as regards the principal districts:—

On the Tyne employment remains dull on the whole, and rather worse than a year ago. With shipsmiths it continues to improve. At repairing yards it has been fair, except at Blyth. Platers, riveters, and caulkers report employment as somewhat better than a month ago. At Jarrow, however, slackness is reported.

The improvement reported a month ago on the Wear has been maintained, and employment is better than a year ago.

In the Tees and Hartlepool district employment continues to show some improvement. It is fair at Middlesbrough, moderate at Hartlepool, dull at Stockton. On repair work employment has been fairly good. Ship joiners are slack.

Employment on the Humber, though better than a month ago, remains bad, and much worse than a year ago. At Grimsby, however, it is fair.

On the Thames and Medway employment shows an improvement on the whole, though it is worse than in July, 1903. It is slack on the Thames, moderately good on the Medway. In the ship repairing yards on the Thames employment is reported as moderate only, and rather worse than a year ago.

On the South Coast a slight decline is shown. At Portsmouth and Devonport employment is fairly good with shipwrights, but slack with iron shipbuilders. At Southampton it is moderate on shipbuilding and repair work, bad on yacht and boat work.

Bristol Channel Ports.—Employment continues bad, but shows a slight improvement as compared with June. Short time is reported in the Cardiff district. Shipwrights at Pembroke Dock and Swansea are well employed.

On the Mersey employment continues to be slack, and worse than a year ago, with much short time.

Employment continues bad on the Clyde, and shows a decline as compared with both a month and a year ago. At Clydebank and Dumbarton, however, shipwrights report it as fair.

Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen.—Employment, though still bad, has improved, and is rather better than a year ago. It is reported as fair with shipwrights at Aberdeen.

Belfast.—Employment has declined and is bad. It is much worse than a year ago.

Other Districts.—At Barrow employment continues moderate. It is bad at Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft, and is fair generally at Ipswich, Dublin, and Cork.

* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—ENGINEERING TRADES.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 7 Employers' Associations, 2 large Companies, 23 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment generally continues dull, and worse than a year ago.

Returns relating to branches of Trade Unions with 140,114 members show that 9,366 (or 6.7 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of July, the same percentage as at the end of June. In July, 1903, the percentage of unemployed was 3.9.

The percentage of unemployed is greatest in Scotland and in the Oldham, Blackburn, and Bolton district. The districts showing the lowest percentages of unemployed are the South Coast (where a large proportion of the workpeople covered by the returns are employed at the Government yards), the London district, and South Wales. As compared with a month ago, some improvement is indicated on the North-East Coast. In other districts little change is shown.

As compared with a year ago the figures indicate a very slight improvement on the North-East Coast, and a decline in every other district, the falling-off being most marked in Lancashire and Scotland.

The percentages for the various districts are shown in detail in the following Table:—

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of July, 1904, included in the returns.*	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in percentage unemployed for July, 1904, as compared with a	
		July, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.	Month ago.	Year ago.
North-East Coast ...	14,056	6.1	8.4	6.2	– 2.3	– 0.1
Manchester and Liverpool District	17,601	7.5	7.0	2.9	+ 0.5	+ 4.6
Oldham, Bolton, and Blackburn District	11,413	10.7	10.5	4.6	+ 0.2	+ 6.1
West Riding Towns ...	11,683	8.4	8.4	4.6	...	+ 3.8
Hull and Lincolnshire District	3,420	5.2	6.3	3.4	– 1.1	+ 1.8
Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Coventry District	6,024	5.6	4.3	2.0	+ 1.3	+ 3.6
Notts, Derby, and Leicester District	3,924	6.9	6.4	3.4	+ 0.5	+ 3.5
London and Neighbouring District	12,460	4.3	4.2	3.2	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
South Coast ...	3,999	1.7	1.5	1.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
South Wales and Bristol District	6,120	4.3	4.5	3.5	– 0.2	+ 0.8
Glasgow and District ...	13,799	10.1	9.6	5.1	+ 0.5	+ 5.0
East of Scotland ...	3,650	11.2	11.2	6.7	...	+ 4.5
Belfast and Dublin ...	3,283	7.2	7.2	4.8	...	+ 2.4
Other Districts ...	5,088	5.4	4.8	3.4	+ 0.6	+ 2.0
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which district figures are not available)	140,114	6.7	6.7	3.9		+ 2.8

The following is a summary of the reports received from all sources as regards the principal districts:—

North-East Coast.—Employment is rather better than a month ago. Generally it is quiet. In the Newcastle and Gateshead district it is fair and fitters have been in better demand. It has been good at Wallsend and Howdon, slack at Jarrow and Darlington; moderate on the Wear and Tees. With iron-founders employment has been fairly good generally, declining at Sunderland, bad at Hartlepool and Jarrow. With brassfinishers it continues fair. It is good with bridge builders and wagon makers in the Tees district.

Manchester and Liverpool District.—Employment continues dull, and is rather worse than a month ago, engineers being badly employed both in Manchester and Liverpool. At Manchester smiths and strikers report employment as slack, coremakers as quiet. Pattern makers report it as moderate at Openshaw. With iron-founders employment is bad. Iron grinders and glazers report employment as only moderate. Boilermakers continue slack. Coachmakers report employment as bad

* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

at Newton Heath, moderate at Openshaw. At Crewe employment generally is bad and short time continues.

Oldham, Bolton, Blackburn and District.—Employment continues bad generally, and is rather worse than a month ago. Textile machine makers, however, report a slight improvement in Blackburn and Burnley. In Oldham short time is being worked both in machine and boiler shops. Boilermakers are moderately employed at Dukinfield, but are slack elsewhere. Employment is moderate with engineers and ironfounders at Bury, Preston and Rochdale.

West Riding Towns.—Employment is quiet, and about the same as a month ago. It is dull at Leeds and Sheffield; moderate at Wakefield, Bradford, and Huddersfield; bad at Barnsley, Halifax, and Keighley. Pattern makers, ironfounders, and boilermakers continue slack generally, but patternmakers report employment as fair at Sheffield, ironfounders as good at Keighley.

Hull and Lincolnshire District.—A slight improvement is reported, compared with a month ago. At Hull employment is moderate; it is fair at Grimsby, and moderate at Doncaster. With ironfounders it is bad at Hull, good at Gainsborough, moderate elsewhere. Boilermakers at Doncaster are slack. With brass-founders employment is fair at Doncaster, moderate, at Hull.

East Midlands.—In this district employment continues about the same as a month ago. It is slack at Derby, bad at Nottingham, and moderate at Leicester. With lace machine builders it is good at Nottingham, but slack at Long Eaton. With ironfounders it is bad at Leicester and Derby, good at Chesterfield. Railway carriage and wagon builders at Derby are well employed

West Midlands.—Employment is rather worse than a month ago, and is quiet generally. It is moderate at Wolverhampton, and bad at Birmingham. With iron-founders it is good at Birmingham and Smethwick, bad at Dudley and Wednesbury, moderate elsewhere. With boilermakers it continues moderate generally, but is good at Wolverhampton. With cycle makers employment continues quiet in Birmingham, Coventry, and Redditch, fair at Wolverhampton; it is fairly good in the motor section.

London and Neighbouring District.—Employment generally continues quiet. With pattern makers generally employment is fair, with brassfounders and brassfinishers it is bad. With instrument makers and electrical workers it is bad. With copper-smiths it is fair. Employment with ironfounders is bad at Greenwich, dull at Chatham, moderate elsewhere.

South Coast.—Employment remains about the same as a month ago. Generally it is reported as moderate, but the percentage of unemployed members of Trade Unions is small. At Weymouth it is good, at Plymouth bad. With ironfounders it is good, except at Brighton and Southampton.

South Wales and Bristol District.—Employment generally is dull and short time is reported in the Cardiff and Barry district. It is bad at Neath, Swansea, and Pembroke Dock, moderate at Bristol. At Swindon it is slack with boilermakers, moderate in other trades. With ironfounders it is bad at Swansea, fairly good elsewhere.

Glasgow and District.—Employment is bad, and a little worse than a month ago; it has been somewhat affected by the holidays. It is moderate at Clydebank. Pattern-makers report it as moderate generally, except at Partick. Iron moulders report it as fair to moderate. With iron and steel dressers it is moderate. In the brass and copper branches it is dull.

East of Scotland.—Employment remains about the same as a month ago. Generally it is bad. The black-

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—ENGINEERING; MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES; COTTON TRADE.

smiths at Edinburgh report employment as fair. At Falkirk it is moderate with moulders; many are on short time.

Belfast and Dublin.—At Belfast employment has been affected by the holidays. Generally it is dull, but machine-workers and brassfounders report it as fair. At Dublin employment is bad generally.

Other Districts.—At Barrow employment continues moderate except with patternmakers and ironfounders. At Lancaster employment with coachmakers is bad; with ironfounders it is good. In the Eastern Counties employment is fair. At Stoke it is moderate with engineers, bad with boilermakers.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 2 Employers' Associations, 20 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents. Compared with a month ago employment is much the same, and is not so good as it was a year ago.

Brasswork, Bedstead Making, etc.—Employment continues bad in the brass trade generally; it is worse than a month and a year ago, and there is much short time. In Birmingham makers of bedsteads and of fire brasses report employment as bad.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.—Employment with nut and bolt makers is reported as fair in the Wolverhampton district, moderate at Birmingham and Smethwick. Makers of machine-made rivets report employment as quiet in Birmingham, cut nail makers as fair, wire nail makers as moderate. Employment is quiet with malleable nail and protector makers, but is slack at Halesowen and Blackheath in the spike, rivet and wrought nail trade.

Tubes.—In the tube trade generally, employment is reported as bad, but slightly better than a month ago. In Birmingham solid drawn tube makers are fairly busy, but makers of copper brazed and brass brazed tubes are only moderately employed. In South Wales tube makers are slack.

Chains, Anchors, Anvils, Vices, etc.—In the Cradley district employment is reported as fair with makers of side-welded, dollied and block chains. With makers of heavy chains and their strikers it is moderate, with some short time. It is bad in South Wales. On the North-east coast it is good. With anchor smiths and strikers employment is reported as quiet in the Black Country and bad in South Wales. Anvil and vice makers at Dudley are slack but are slightly better employed than a month ago, but some of the works are on half time. At Birmingham and West Bromwich axle makers report employment as fairly good, spring makers at West Bromwich as fair. At Wednesbury makers of railway axles and springs, and of coach iron work report employment as quiet. At Walsall employment is slack with makers of bits, stirrups, case hames and cart gear.

Locks, Keys, and General Hardware.—In the lock, key and latch trade employment continues very bad in the Willenhall and Wolverhampton districts. It is worse than a month and a year ago and short time is general. Hollow-ware makers at Birmingham and West Bromwich report employment as quiet, and stampers and buffers at Sheffield as slack. Makers of plantation tools and Brazil hoes in Wolverhampton and Birmingham report employment as good; makers of iron fences and hurdles, spring traps, stampers and piercers, galvanizers and jappers as quiet; at Stourbridge spade and fork finishers are quiet.

Files, Edge Tools, etc.—At Wolverhampton file smiths report employment as quiet, file cutters in Birmingham as moderate. In Sheffield hand forgers are moderately employed, but the file trade generally is quiet. In War-

ington employment is bad. The makers of edge tools are quiet at Birmingham, slack at Wolverhampton and Sheffield.

Cutlery, etc.—In the Sheffield district the only sections reporting employment as good are the sheep shear making branches. Saw makers and jobbing grinders are moderately employed; other branches are quiet. At Redditch, employment with needle makers is quiet. Leicester and Nottingham needle makers are slack. At Redditch the fish-hook trade is moderately employed.

Stoves, Grates, etc.—Employment in these branches is reported as fair at Falkirk, and on the North East Coast; it is slack in other centres of the trade.

Sheet Metal, etc.—In London workers on sheet metal generally report employment as bad, but slightly better than a month ago. In the Black Country employment is reported as quiet with tin plate, slack with iron plate workers. In Birmingham employment is moderate with tin-plate workers; bad, with short time, with iron-plate workers. Employment is reported as good at Aberdeen; moderate at Nottingham; fair at Manchester, Exeter, Edinburgh, Dundee, and Dublin; steady at Norwich and Yarmouth, slack elsewhere.

Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.—In London small-silver workers report employment as quiet; silver fork and spoon finishers as fair, but not so good as a month ago; silver-plate polishers as slack, with short time; silversmiths as fair, but electro-platers as moderate; goldsmiths and jewellers as slack, with short time, but slightly improved; gold beaters and diamond cutters as fair. In Birmingham all sections are reported as very quiet, as also the watch trade at Coventry. In Sheffield the silver platers and gilders report employment as good, the other sections as slack.

Wirework.—Wire weavers at London report employment as very good; wire workers and weavers at Glasgow as fairly good; drawers at Manchester as fair; other centres as quiet or bad. Drawers of brass and copper wire at Birmingham are fairly busy.

Farriers.—Employment generally is reported as quiet, with some short time. Local exceptions are Leicester, and Tyne and Wear, fairly good; Suffolk and Essex, Glasgow, Dundee, Aberdeen and Dublin, fair; Nottingham, moderate.

COTTON TRADE.

INFORMATION as to the state of employment in the different branches of the cotton trade during the last week in July has been received through the Trade Correspondent to the Department from 632 firms employing 143,912 workpeople. Information has also been received from the Local Correspondents.

The general result of the information thus obtained shows that there was very little change in the spinning branch as compared with a month ago, in the numbers employed, but a slight increase in the number of persons affected by short time and in the number of spindles standing; compared with a year ago there was a considerable improvement, the number of hours lost by those working short time being generally only 8 a week instead of 15½ as in July, 1903, and the number affected by short time being considerably less. The Cotton Spinners' Federation have however recommended that spinners of American cotton should stop each Saturday and Monday during August.

In the spinning mills covered by the employers' returns 97.3 per cent. of the total spindles were working in the last week of July, compared with 97.5 per cent. in June, and 94.5 per cent. in July, 1903. Many of these spindles, however, were working short time. The proportion of the total number of operatives covered by the returns who were in mills in which short time was worked in the

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—COTTON TRADE.

last week of July was 39.4 per cent., compared with 38.3 per cent. a month ago, and 49.5 per cent. a year ago.

In the weaving branch little change was apparent compared with a month ago; employment shows an improvement compared with a year ago, but short time and slackness are again reported, and employment is only moderate.

Of the total looms covered by the employers' returns 93.1 per cent. were working in the last week in July, compared with 93.4 per cent. in June and 89.9 per cent. in July, 1903. In these returns the proportion of operatives who were in factories in which short time was worked in the last week of July was 15.4 per cent., compared with 11.1 per cent. a month ago, and 29.4 per cent. a year ago.

In the following Table the workpeople included in the employers' returns are shown separately for the preparing, spinning, weaving, and other departments, together with the percentage increase apparent compared with a month ago and a year ago:—

Departments.	Number of Workpeople employed in last week of			Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in number employed in last week of July, 1904, as compared with	
	July, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.	A month ago.	A year ago.
Preparing	21,415	21,259	20,521	+ 0.7	+ 4.4
Spinning	29,981	29,797	28,115	+ 0.6	+ 6.7
Weaving	78,340	78,093	75,213	+ 0.3	+ 4.2
Others	14,176	14,150	13,718	+ 0.2	+ 3.3
Total	143,912	143,299	137,567	+ 0.4	+ 4.6

It will be seen from the above Table that the number of persons employed by the 632 employers sending returns increased slightly in every department, compared with a month ago, and a considerable increase is apparent in the number employed a year ago, the increase being most marked in the case of workpeople employed in the spinning departments.

SPINNING.

The following Table shows the percentage of the total number of workpeople covered by the returns who were employed in mills working short time during the last week of the months July and June, 1904, and July, 1903. It also shows the percentage of spindles working during the last week of those months:—

District.	Percentage of Total Number employed who were in Mills working short time in Preparing and Spinning Departments.			Spindles Working per cent. of Total Number of Spindles.		
	July, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.	July, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.
Ashton	40.7	43.8	65.8	95.9	96.2	94.0
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde	51.0	53.5	32.0	96.7	97.1	96.2
Oldham	67.8	68.3	69.0	97.0	97.5	95.7
Bolton	5.6	3.8	9.4	99.5	98.4	97.4
Wigan	0.0	13.2	19.6	97.3	97.3	93.2
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Todmorden, and Walsden	38.9	29.7	59.5	97.3	97.3	96.1
Preston, Chorley, and Lancaster	1.7	8.6	38.0	94.4	93.4	78.8
Blackburn, Accrington, and Darwen	14.0	8.4	26.3	97.9	99.4	87.5
Burnley, Padiham, Bacup, Clitheroe, Colne, and Nelson	39.8	20.6	55.0	99.9	99.9	99.9
Manchester	50.3	41.2	45.9	100.0	100.0	93.4
Total	39.4	38.3	49.5	97.3	97.5	94.5

From the above Table it appears that, on the whole, little change has taken place during the month, a falling off in the Bury, Blackburn, Burnley, and Manchester districts being partly balanced by an improvement in the Wigan and Preston districts. As compared with

a year ago the percentage of persons affected by short time is less and the percentage of spindles running is greater. It will also be remembered that the mills working organized short time a year ago only worked 40 hours a week, whereas the majority working short time in July and June worked 47½ hours. The districts showing a marked improvement compared with a year ago are the Ashton-under-Lyne, Wigan, Bury, Rochdale and Heywood, Preston, Blackburn, and Burnley districts, which show a smaller percentage of persons working short time and a larger percentage of spindles running. A decline is apparent in the Stockport, Glossop and Hyde district. In other districts there is little change, increased numbers of persons on short time being counterbalanced by increased percentages of spindles working in the Bolton and Manchester districts.

WEAVING.

The following Table shows the percentage of the total number of workpeople covered by the returns who were employed in factories working short time during the last week of July and June, 1904, and July, 1903; it also shows the percentage of looms working during the last week of those months.

District.	Percentage of Total Number employed who were in Factories working short time in Weaving and Other Departments.			Looms Working per cent. of Total Number of Looms.		
	July, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.	July, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.
Ashton	15.5	16.2	65.5	78.9	78.8	65.5
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde	33.6	20.6	23.2	98.9	98.1	99.4
Oldham	59.3	59.5	60.4	65.9	69.2	78.8
Bolton	13.1	19.5	25.2	85.5	85.1	86.0
Wigan	13.3	22.7	29.3	80.5	75.4	81.5
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Todmorden, and Walsden	20.7	20.8	54.6	91.6	92.9	88.2
Preston, Chorley, and Lancaster	4.3	3.1	24.4	93.1	93.7	88.8
Blackburn, Accrington, and Darwen	3.8	0.0	19.8	96.1	96.7	89.8
Burnley, Padiham, Bacup, Clitheroe, Colne, and Nelson	17.9	4.3	15.5	97.6	98.3	96.5
Manchester	40.3	26.3	29.9	87.1	88.2	88.9
Total	15.4	11.1	29.4	93.1	93.4	89.9

Compared with a month ago there is a slight increase in the number of persons in factories working short time, and a few more looms were standing, the decline being most marked in the Stockport, Glossop and Hyde, Manchester, and Burnley districts. In the Ashton, Bolton, and Wigan districts, on the other hand, an improvement is shown.

Compared with a year ago employment shows an improvement, the number of persons affected by short time and the number of looms standing both showing a decline. In the Stockport and Manchester districts, however, more persons worked short time and more looms were standing; in Oldham also more looms were idle. Improvement was most marked in the Ashton district and in the Wigan, Bury, Preston, and Blackburn districts there was a considerable decline in the number working short time, and (except in Wigan) in the number of looms standing.

PRICES OF RAW COTTON.

American Cotton.—During the month of July the average price of raw cotton "middling American" at Liverpool was 6.27d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 6.72d. and the lowest 5.96d. For the period from 1st to 11th August, the average price of "middling American" was 6.04d. per lb.

Egyptian Cotton.—The price of "good fair Egyptian" during July averaged 6.86d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 7d. and the lowest 6.1½d. For the period from 1st to 11th August the average price of "good fair Egyptian" was 7.11d. per lb.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—COTTON TRADE; WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following Table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns, and exported:—

	Month of July.			Seven months ended July.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Imported	65,308	78,488	108,498	2,088,286	2,030,024	1,736,029
Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns	254,520	157,951	213,387	1,890,886	1,870,276	1,587,133
Exported	64,976	61,274	20,613	282,898	299,008	252,246

Particulars of the various descriptions of cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns are given below:—

Description of Cotton.	Month of July.			Seven Months ended July.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American	209,607	134,851	183,039	1,542,230	1,558,828	1,267,891
Brazilian	18,886	5,728	2,752	92,755	80,669	44,981
East Indian	1,552	2,779	6,900	5,004	33,942	63,225
Egyptian	14,482	12,187	18,287	192,182	162,832	186,399
Miscellaneous	9,993	2,406	2,409	51,817	34,005	24,627
Total	254,520	157,951	213,387	1,890,886	1,870,276	1,587,133

The quantity of all kinds of American cotton forwarded from English ports to inland towns during the first seven months of 1904, was 1,267,891 bales, or 290,937 bales less than in the same period in 1903. The corresponding figures for Egyptian cotton are 186,399 in 1904, and 162,832 in 1903.

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on 5th August was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be about 248,460 bales, compared with 273,500 bales at the corresponding date a year ago.

The following Table shows the quantities and average declared values of exported cotton yarn and cotton piece goods in July, 1904, and in the corresponding months of 1902 and 1903. The declared value of the cotton yarn and twist exported during July averaged 13'44d. per lb., as compared with 11'08d. per lb. in July, 1903, an increase of about 12 per cent. The corresponding value for June, 1904, was 14'10d. per lb. The increase per yard in the value of exported cotton piece goods amounted to nearly 8 per cent., the value being 2'79d. per yard in July, 1904, as compared with 2'59d. in July, 1903. The declared value in June, 1904, was 2'79d. per yard:—

	Quantities Exported.			Average Value in Pence.		
	July, 1902.	July, 1903.	July, 1904.	July, 1902.	July, 1903.	July, 1904.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.
Cotton Yarn & Twist						
Grey	8,802,300	8,637,200	9,891,000	11'22	11'83	13'40
Bleached and Dyed..	3,392,300	2,355,800	2,309,700	11'33	12'52	13'67
Total	12,194,600	10,993,000	12,200,700	11'25	11'98	13'44
Cotton Piece Goods—						
Grey or Unbleached	166,076,900	171,459,900	170,439,400	2'06	2'02	2'27
Bleached	111,735,500	121,191,600	128,057,600	2'49	2'51	2'65
Printed	84,378,000	104,887,500	93,606,300	2'72	2'74	2'97
Dyed or Manufactured, of Dyed Yarn	76,752,100	85,171,900	82,517,600	3'55	3'66	3'89
Total	438,942,500	482,710,900	474,620,900	2'56	2'59	2'79

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from the Trade Correspondent of the Department based on information supplied by 245 firms employing 74,655 workpeople, and from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and the Local Correspondents.

The number paid wages by the firms making returns at the end of July was 74,655, compared with 75,015 at the end of June, and 75,105 at the end of July, 1903, a decrease of 0.5 per cent. compared with a month ago and of 0.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

From the following Table it will be seen that little change took place in the worsted trade, a slight decline being apparent throughout the trade compared with a year ago. In the woollen trade the number employed in Yorkshire shows a decided improvement compared with a year ago, but a marked decline is apparent in Scotland.

Trade and District.	Number of workpeople employed by firms making returns at the end of			Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on		
	July, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.	
Worsted—						
Bradford	23,067	23,327	23,654	- 1.1	- 2.5	
Other Yorkshire Districts	19,838	20,044	19,854	- 1.0	- 0.1	
Other Districts	4,371	2,368	2,425	+ 0.1	- 2.2	
Total	45,276	45,739	45,933	- 1.0	- 1.4	
Woollen—						
Yorkshire	12,649	12,420	12,065	+ 1.8	+ 4.8	
Scotland	6,012	6,749	7,095	- 2.0	- 6.8	
Other Districts	3,384	3,370	3,380	+ 0.4	+ 0.1	
Total	22,045	22,539	22,540	+ 0.5	+ 0.5	
Woollen and Worsted (not separated)	6,734	6,737	6,632	...	+ 1.5	
Total Woollen and Worsted	74,655	75,015	75,105	- 0.5	- 0.6	

In the next Table no marked decline is shown in the different branches of the trade compared with a month ago, except among the weavers in Scotland. Compared with a year ago there is a slight decline in the sorting and combing branch, and a considerable decline in Scotland in every branch.

District and Branch of Trade.	Number of workpeople employed by firms making returns at the end of			Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on		
	July, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.	
Sorting and Combing—						
Yorkshire	6,297	6,809	6,950	- 0.2	- 2.2	
Scotland	375	382	394	- 1.8	- 4.8	
Other Districts	385	380	383	+ 1.3	+ 0.5	
Total	7,057	7,571	7,727	- 0.2	- 2.2	
Spinning—						
Yorkshire	24,673	24,776	24,514	- 0.4	+ 0.6	
Scotland	2,223	2,245	2,336	- 1.0	- 4.8	
Other Districts	1,872	1,858	1,891	+ 0.8	- 1.0	
Total	28,768	28,879	28,741	- 0.4	+ 0.1	
Weaving—						
Yorkshire	18,250	18,352	18,434	- 0.6	- 1.0	
Scotland	3,534	3,637	3,765	- 2.8	- 6.1	
Other Districts	1,678	1,689	1,677	- 0.7	+ 0.1	
Total	23,462	23,678	23,876	- 0.9	- 1.7	
Other Departments—						
Yorkshire	9,417	9,466	9,187	- 0.5	+ 2.5	
Scotland	3,718	3,702	3,857	+ 0.4	- 3.6	
Other Districts	1,733	1,719	1,717	+ 0.8	+ 0.9	
Total	14,868	14,887	14,761	- 1.1	+ 0.7	
TOTAL FOR ALL BRANCHES—						
Yorkshire	59,137	59,403	59,085	- 0.4	+ 0.1	
Scotland	9,850	9,966	10,352	- 1.2	- 4.8	
Other Districts	5,668	5,646	5,668	+ 0.4	...	
Total, Woollen and Worsted	74,655	75,015	75,105	- 0.5	- 0.6	

The following is a summary of the reports received from all sources as regards the principal districts:—

Bradford District.—Employment in the worsted trade is still very quiet. The wool sorters report it as bad, and several firms report short time in this branch. With wool combers employment is reported as better than a month ago and a year ago, although short time for workers on night turns is still reported. In the spinning branch there is little change; in the weaving branch employment is worse than a month ago and a year ago.

Keighley District.—Employment shows a considerable decline compared with a month ago, but is much the same as a year ago.

Halifax District.—Employment shows a decline in the worsted trade compared with a year ago; compared with a month ago there is not much change, and considerable slackness is again reported amongst worsted spinners. In the woollen trade employment is better than a year ago.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES; OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

Huddersfield District.—In the worsted trade employment is very quiet and worse than a month ago, but much the same as a year ago. In the woollen trade employment has been good and better than a year ago; several firms report overtime or night work.

Leeds and Wakefield District.—Employment is reported as fair in Leeds during the month, employment on low class goods having improved; it is still quiet on best cloths; blanket makers have been well employed. At Wakefield spinning and weaving factories are on short time. At Yeadon and Guiseley employment is reported as fair.

The Heavy Woollen District (Dewsbury, Batley, Ossett, etc.).—The improvement in this district has been maintained and many firms report overtime; full employment is general.

Scotland.—Employment again shows a decline and is considerably worse than a year ago. In Hawick it continues bad. In Selkirk it has declined and is quiet, and one or two of the mills are working short time; it is worse than a year ago. In Galashiels employment is fair, and much the same as a month ago and a year ago.

Other Districts.—Employment in the Trowbridge district continues good. In Wales, at Newtown and Llanidloes, full time continues to be worked. At Rochdale and Milnrow employment is slack; at Stockport it continues moderate.

Exports.—The following Table shows the quantities and average declared values of British and Irish exports of woollen, worsted, and alpaca and mohair yarn, and woollen and worsted piece goods in July, 1904, and in the corresponding months of 1902 and 1903.

	Quantities Exported.			Average Value per lb.		
	July, 1902.	July, 1903.	July, 1904.	July, 1902.	July, 1903.	July, 1904.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	d.	d.	d.
Yarn:—						
Woollen	138,900	150,700	151,200	18'55	18'74	20'80
Worsted	4,763,600	4,761,300	4,082,000	17'01	16'59	18'66
Alpaca and Mohair	1,153,000	1,107,400	1,222,500	29'29	28'90	27'73
Total	6,055,500	6,019,400	5,455,700	19'39	18'91	20'75
Piece Goods						
Woollen	5,234,100	5,664,500	6,889,600	28'60	29'80	27'54
Worsted	10,233,000	10,686,900	9,459,700	15'55	15'03	16'86
Total	15,467,100	16,349,400	16,349,300	19'97	20'14	21'36

OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

Jute and Flax Trades.

ACCORDING to information received from two Employers' Associations, from one Trade Union, and from Local Correspondents, employment in the flax and jute trades in Scotland and Ireland has been only moderate and worse than a year ago.

In Dundee employment continued moderate, but was worse than a year ago. All the works were closed on the 22nd July for the usual holidays until the end of the month. Information has been received with regard to jute and flax factories, employing about 8,900 men and boys, and 21,000 women and girls. From this it appears that out of 40 spinning mills, 6 gave only partial employment during the month. Out of 34 weaving factories 5 gave only partial employment. One jute works has been closed owing to bad trade. The Trade Union operatives in Forfar report employment as somewhat dull, but as slightly better than a year ago; in Brechin as moderate; in Arbroath as slack; in Montrose as fair.

In Ulster the Employers' Association reports employment as fair in the flax spinning mills. In Belfast the Trade Unions report employment as good with linen lappers; as moderate with flax roughers and hackle and gill makers; as dull with flax dressers and power loom yarn dressers; as bad with beetlers and power loom tenters.

At Barnsley employment in the linen trade is reported as moderate.

Hosiery Trade.

According to information received from correspondents of the department, one Employers' Association, and one Trade Union, employment in the hosiery trade continues bad, and is worse than a year ago.

Leicester District.—Returns received through the Local Correspondent from hosiery manufacturers employing 11,619 workpeople in their factories at the end of July show an increase of 0.8 per cent. on the number employed compared with a month ago, but a decrease of 1.6 per cent. compared with a year ago. Of the total number of operatives, 63 per cent. were employed by firms reporting short time in some departments during the month, compared with 50 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in June. In Leicester employment continues bad, though a slight improvement is reported in some departments. In Hinckley employment is slack in most branches. In Loughborough employment is fairly good in the seamless hose branch, slack in the shirt and pant branch.

Nottingham and Derby District.—Employment is reported as bad generally throughout the district; rib top makers at Nottingham are a little busier, but are not fully employed; framework knitters report employment as moderate at Mansfield and Sutton-in-Ashfield; Shetland shawl workers at Hucknall Torkard report it as improved. Employment on the whole is worse than a year ago.

Scotland.—In Hawick employment continues bad, and is worse than a year ago. In Selkirk it is fair, and is much the same as a month ago and a year ago.

Lace Trade.

ACCORDING to information received from one Employers' Association, from one Trade Union, and the Local Correspondent employment in the Nottingham lace trade is still bad, and shows little change from last month. It is worse than a year ago. Employment in the plain net branch continues fairly good, though there is a slight falling off compared with a month ago; it is about the same as a year ago. Employment is reported as bad in the levers and curtain branches, and worse than a year ago. All minor branches report employment as dull. At Bulwell employment is reported as slack, and at Beeston, Stapleford, and Kimberley as quiet. At Long Eaton and Ilkeston it remains bad. In Glasgow it is reported as fair; in Newmilns as bad, with much short time.

Carpet Trade.

ACCORDING to information received from employers through the Trade Correspondent of the Department, from one Trade Union, and from Local Correspondents, employment in the woollen carpet trade shows a slight improvement in some parts of England, and is good in Scotland.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making returns at the end of July was 5,527, compared with 5,566 at the end of June, and 5,496 at the end of July, 1903, a decrease of 0.7 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Employment at Kidderminster continues slack; at Bridgnorth it is good; at Halifax it has improved, and is reported as good. Employment with carpet weavers in Midlothian continues good, and is better than a year ago. In the Glasgow district employment is reported as very fair.

Printing, Dyeing, Bleaching, and Finishing.

Information has been received from three Employers' Associations, from three Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment with woollen and worsted dyers in the West Riding is reported as still quiet; out of 5,200 Trade Union members about 3,000 have worked short time and about 500 overtime; a year ago employment was reported as bad. With cotton dyers generally

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—OTHER TEXTILE; TAILORING; BOOT AND SHOE TRADES.

employment, although still only moderate, is slightly better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago; at Bolton it is reported as bad. The calico printers at New Mills and the calico printers' engravers at Dinting report employment as fair; the calico printers at Glasgow as fair, and the printers' engravers as good. Employment with hosiery dyers and trimmers is reported as bad in Leicestershire and worse than a year ago; with dyers at Nottingham it is moderate, but slack with silk dyers; with hosiery trimmers it is moderate and worse than a year ago; with bleachers at Bulwell and Basford it is slack. Calendermen in Glasgow report employment as dull. In Dundee employment has been fair with dyers and bleachers; full time has been worked, but fewer workpeople have been employed and employment has been worse than a year ago.

TAILORING TRADE.

INFORMATION has been received from Employers, Local Correspondents, and Trade Unions.

Employment in the *bespoke* branch in London has continued dull, and has been worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the provinces it has declined, and is generally slack. In the *ready-made* branch employment has continued bad, although slightly better at the end of the month in some centres; it is worse than a year ago.

Bespoke Branch.—Returns have been received from London firms employing 738 workpeople on their premises and 1,557 outworkers.* According to these returns employment with inworkers was good during the month in firms employing 13 per cent. of the total number, moderate in firms employing 56 per cent., and bad in firms employing 31 per cent. With outworkers* it was good with firms employing 17 per cent., moderate with firms employing 64 per cent., and bad with firms employing 19 per cent. Employment with both inworkers and outworkers was worse than a month ago and a year ago. The West-end branch of the Trade Union reports employment as bad. In Liverpool, Manchester, Edinburgh and Dublin employment is reported as bad; in Glasgow and Belfast as fair.

Ready-made Branch.—In London employment during the month is reported as either moderate or bad, and as worse than a month ago and a year ago. The Trade Union cutters report it as bad.

In Leeds employment, although bad, has been a little better than a month ago but worse than a year ago. According to returns received from ready-made tailoring manufacturers, employing about 8,000 workpeople in their factories in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops, employment during July was good or fair in firms employing 12 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns, moderate in firms employing 51 per cent., and bad in firms employing 37 per cent. Compared with June, firms employing 50 per cent. report employment as improved, firms employing 19 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 31 per cent. as worse. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 12 per cent. report it as improved, firms employing 8 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 80 per cent. as worse. The Trade Union operatives report employment as bad; several Jewish tailors have left for the United States. In Manchester employment has been moderate, and worse than a month ago and a year ago; the Jewish Trade Union tailors and machinists have several unemployed and a majority working short time. In Bristol employment has continued bad, and has been worse than a year ago; at the end of the month, however, an improvement was apparent. In Staffordshire employment has not improved, and has been worse than a year ago. Employment is reported as fair at Norwich and Colchester, moderate at Ipswich. In Glasgow employment has continued fair, and has been about the same as a year ago.

* The numbers may include the same outworkers more than once, and do not include persons employed by outworkers.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

(For Leather Trades, see p. 246.)

RETURNS have been received from the Trade Correspondent of the Department based on information supplied by 586 firms employing 71,835 workpeople. Reports have also been furnished by Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.

The number (71,835) employed by all firms making returns at the end of July shows an increase of 0.6 per cent. on the number (71,415) employed by these firms at the end of June, but a decrease of 0.5 per cent. on the number (72,206) employed a year ago. Of the total number of operatives 58 per cent. were employed by firms working full time in all departments throughout July, compared with 59 per cent. of those from whom returns were received for June.

The numbers employed alone, however, do not show the full fluctuation in the volume of employment. Accordingly 462 firms, employing 59,662 workpeople, have been good enough to supply returns of the aggregate amount of wages paid on the last four pay days in July, in addition to particulars of the number employed.

The following Table shows the number employed and wages paid in the principal districts, together with the increase or decrease in each, compared with a month and a year ago:—

District.	No. of firms making returns of both number unemployed and of wages paid.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
		No. employed at end of July, 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Aggregate amount of wages paid on last four pay days in July, 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	
			A month ago.	A year ago.		A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.							
London	43	3,051	+ 40	+ 42	15,345	- 47	+ 26
Leicester	67	11,918	+ 137	+ 125	45,412	- 53	- 90
Leicester Country District	30	3,080	+ 06	+ 88	8,629	- 45	+ 28
Northampton	51	7,635	- 46	- 20	28,461	- 49	- 46
Kettering	23	2,866	- 01	- 08	8,556	- 260	- 44
Northampton Country District	78	7,888	- 23	- 103	26,148	- 38	- 153
Stafford and District	14	2,389	- 02	+ 39	8,066	- 34	+ 97
Norwich & District	23	3,759	+ 02	+ 11	12,033	- 05	+ 37
Bristol	15	1,858	- 25	- 63	6,493	- 18	- 74
Kingswood	21	2,219	+ 08	+ 57	9,163	+ 115	+ 100
Leeds and District	35	3,319	+ 02	- 66	11,901	- 06	- 73
Manchester & District	11	1,732	- 36	+ 48	6,442	+ 24	+ 87
Birmingham & District	6	895	+ 02	- 26	2,737	- 60	- 36
Other parts of England and Wales	20	2,473	- 70	- 56	6,765	- 160	- 143
Total, England and Wales	437	55,122	+ 09	+ 07	196,151	- 49	- 51
SCOTLAND	23	4,257	- 09	- 47	13,181	- 190	- 94
IRELAND	2	283	- 14	+ 22	879	+ 49	+ 49
Total, UNITED KINGDOM	462	59,662	+ 07	+ 03	210,211	- 59	- 54

Compared with a month ago, only 3 districts show an increase, from £15,347 to £16,484, in the amount of wages paid by 34 firms making returns, and 13 show a decrease, from £208,042 to £193,727, in the amount paid by 428 firms making returns. The increase took place in Kingswood (11.5 per cent.), Ireland (4.9 per cent.), and the Manchester district (2.4 per cent.). The percentage decrease was greatest in Kettering (26.0 per cent.), in Scotland (19.0 per cent.), and the miscellaneous group of districts (16.0 per cent.). The decrease in Scotland and in some districts in England was partly due to holidays.

The net result was an increase of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed by 462 firms at the end of July compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 5.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid during the month compared with a month ago.

Compared with a year ago, 7 districts show an increase, from £57,399 to £60,557, in the amount of wages paid by 144 firms making returns, and 9 show a decrease, from £164,736 to £149,654, in the amount paid by 318 firms making returns. The percentage increase was highest in Kingswood (10.0 per cent.), Stafford and district (9.7 per cent.), and Manchester and district (8.7

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—BOOT AND SHOE TRADE; HAT TRADE; OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

per cent. The percentage decrease was greatest in the Northampton Country District (15.3 per cent.), the miscellaneous group of districts (14.3 per cent.), and Scotland (9.4 per cent.). The net result was an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed at the end of the month, and a decrease of 5.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid during the month.

The following is a summary of the reports received from all sources as regards the principal districts:—

London.—Employment is still dull, and shows a decline since last month, but a slight improvement on a year ago. The operatives' Trade Union reports it as quiet, and about the same as a month and a year ago. The clickers, pressmen, and machinists report it as very dull. One branch of handsewn boot-makers reports it as quiet, and another as bad, with much short time.

Leicester and District.—Employment has been bad during the month, but the employers' returns show a large increase in numbers employed at the end of the month compared with a month ago and a year ago. The Trade Union lasters and finishers at Leicester and Hinckley report employment as very slack, more than half working short time. With the Trade Union clickers and pressmen at Leicester it continues bad.

Northampton, Kettering and District.—From the returns received from firms in these districts, a decline is shown in the number employed and the amount of wages paid compared with both a month and a year ago. The decline in the amount of wages paid is most marked at Kettering. The Trade Union lasters and finishers report employment as fair at Daventry; as bad at Northampton, Rushden, Desborough, and Wellingborough; and as exceptionally bad at Kettering. The Trade Union clickers and pressmen at Northampton and Kettering report employment as bad, short time being general. A slight improvement in employment with army boot makers is reported.

Stafford and District.—Employment has shown a further decline since last month, but is better than a year ago. Hand-sewn shoemakers are well employed.

Eastern Counties.—Employment is fair at Norwich and Ipswich, and is improving in some branches; it is better than a year ago.

Bristol and Kingswood.—The Trade Unions report employment as very bad at Bristol, short time being general; it is worse than a year ago. At Kingswood firms making returns show a marked increase in the amount of wages paid during July compared with the amount paid in June; compared with a year ago both numbers employed and wages paid show an improvement.

Leeds and District.—Employment with Trade Union lasters and finishers has improved at Leeds, and is reported as moderate; it has declined at other places in the district. With Trade Union clickers and pressmen it continues quiet. Employment generally is worse than a year ago.

Other Districts in England.—The Trade Union lasters and finishers report employment as good at Bishop Auckland; as slack at Nottingham and Mansfield; as quiet at Newcastle, Liverpool, Wolverhampton, and Plymouth; as bad at Derby, Chesterfield, Birmingham, and Manchester. Employers in the Manchester district report employment as better than a year ago.

Scotland.—Employment has declined, and is bad throughout the district, except at Kilmarnock, where a slight improvement is reported. It is worse than a year ago.

Imports and Exports.—The following Table gives the quantities and the values of the boots and shoes imported and exported during the undermentioned periods:—

		Month of July.			Seven months ended July.		
		1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Imports	Dozen pairs...	12,995	16,324	11,680	154,935	143,524	128,143
	Value £ ...	50,972	62,645	45,388	554,016	579,291	474,293
Re-Exports	Dozen pairs...	2,123	1,153	1,323	11,705	12,251	11,508
	Value £ ...	4,891	3,047	4,426	31,378	32,880	30,550
Exports (British and Irish)	Dozen pairs...	65,327	65,579	58,665	399,993	462,098	351,789
	Value £ ...	153,915	156,951	139,744	967,621	1,096,428	821,173

HAT TRADE.

ACCORDING to information received from three Employers' Associations, and two Trade Unions, employment in the hat trade shows a further decline. Trade Unions with 5,419 members have 188 (or 3.5 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 3.4 per cent. at the end of June, and 3.5 per cent. a year ago.

With silk hatters employment in London is reported as fair at the beginning of the month, but as very slack towards the end, and as worse than a year ago; about 2 hours a day short time is being worked. In Denton employment is very quiet, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In Glasgow it is reported as very quiet; in Edinburgh it is good. The Trade Union silk hatters have 12.0 per cent. of their members unemployed, compared with 8.2 per cent. a month ago, and 11.4 per cent. a year ago.

With felt hatters, employment at Denton is bad and worse than a year ago; the Trade Union reports fewer unemployed but three-fourths of its members have worked short time. At Stockport employment is moderate, and better than a year ago. At Hyde, Hurst, and Failsworth it is moderate, and shows little change from a month and a year ago. At Bredbury it is dull; at Bury fairly good, showing an improvement on last month. In Warwickshire employment is fair, but worse than a year ago. The Trade Union felt hatters have 2.0 per cent. unemployed, compared with 2.6 per cent. a month ago, and 2.2 per cent. a year ago.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

INFORMATION has been received from Employers, Local Correspondents, and Trade Unions, and from three Employment Bureaux in London.

Employment in the dressmaking trades has been fair, but shows the usual seasonal decline and is slightly worse than a year ago; in the mantle trade some improvement is apparent; in the shirt and collar trade employment is quiet and worse than a year ago; in the corset trade employment has declined and is worse than a year ago.

Dress, Millinery, and Mantle Trades.—In London returns from retail firms, chiefly in the West-end district, employing 1,664 dressmakers at the end of July show a decrease of 9.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 0.8 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment at the end of the month was fair. Court dressmakers employing 1,304 workpeople at the end of July show a decrease of 20.6 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 4.7 per cent. compared with a year ago; dressmakers employing one-third of the total number report employment as quiet or bad; with the remaining two-thirds it is reported as fair or good. In the wholesale mantle and costume trades employment is reported as only moderate or bad during the month, but as improving towards the end of the month. The number of milliners employed in retail firms has greatly decreased compared with a month ago, and is less than the number employed a year ago; in the wholesale millinery branch employment is reported as quiet.

Returns from three Employment Bureaux show a decline in the demand for dressmakers during the month compared with June, but an increase compared with a year ago.

In Manchester employment with mantle makers has been fairly good and decidedly better than a month ago; it has been much the same as a year ago. In the costume and skirt trade employment has continued fair; firms employing 1,953 workpeople at the end of July show a decrease of 0.7 per cent. on the number employed at the end of June, and an increase of 1.2 per cent., compared with a year ago.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade has been only moderate, being worse than a month ago and about the same as a year ago.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—OTHER CLOTHING; LEATHER; PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES.

Shirt and Collar Trade.—Returns received from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland, and Ireland, employing 8,173 workpeople in their factories at the end of July show a decrease of 1.8 per cent. in the number employed at the end of July compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 3.1 per cent. compared with a year ago. Firms employing 32 per cent. of the total number report employment as good or fair, and firms employing 68 per cent. as quiet or bad, to be compared with 33 per cent. and 67 per cent. respectively at the end of June. Employment generally is moderate in London and Glasgow, fair in Belfast, slack in Londonderry.

Corset Trade.—Returns received from corset manufacturers employing 4,398 workpeople in their factories at the end of July, show a decrease of 2.9 per cent. in the number employed at the end of June and of 2.2 per cent. in the number employed a year ago. Firms employing 32 per cent. of the total number included in the returns report employment as good or fair, and firms employing 68 per cent. as quiet or bad, to be compared with 61 per cent. and 39 per cent. respectively at the end of June.

LEATHER TRADES.

(For Boot and Shoe Trades see p. 244.)

RETURNS have been received from 2 Employers' Associations, 22 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents. These returns indicate that while there is some slight improvement locally the general state of employment remains bad, being worse than a month and a year ago, and there is a good deal of short time. The percentage of Trade Union members reported as unemployed at the end of July was 10.6, as compared with 10.2 in June, and 6.7 per cent. in July, 1903.

Skinner, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers, etc.—In these branches employment generally remains bad and worse than both a month and a year ago. The local exceptions are the grounders and skinner and leather shavers at Leeds and the curriers at Bermondsey (London), who report a slight improvement. The slight improvement reported last month in the Bolton, Bury and Wigan district continues. At Norwich these branches are fairly busy. In Suffolk and Essex employment is moderate; at Bristol it continues to be fair.

Saddle and Harness Makers, etc.—In London the saddle and harness makers report employment as bad and worse than a month ago and a year ago. At Walsall employment generally continues bad and there is much short time. In Dundee there is a slight improvement, and at Nottingham employment is on the whole moderate, and at Edinburgh and Dublin it is reported as fair, but in other districts reported on it is slack generally. With horse collar makers employment is reported as fair to fairly good, except at Leeds where it is bad.

Miscellaneous Leather Workers.—In the London pocket-book and leather case trade employment though somewhat better than a month ago continues bad. The portmanteau and leather trunk makers report employment as fair in London, but slack in Manchester and Norwich. In these miscellaneous branches a good deal of short time prevails.

PRINTING, BOOKBINDING, AND PAPER TRADES.

RETURNS have been furnished by 19 Employers' Associations, by 28 Employers in Scotland, by Trade Unions with nearly 55,000 members, and by Local Correspondents.

PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment is rather quiet on the whole. In letterpress printing it improved throughout the provinces, largely owing to the preparation of voters' lists; in London, however, there was a slight decline. Trade Unions with 39,093 members had 3.7 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 4.9 per

cent. in June and 4.1 per cent. in July, 1903. In lithographic printing employment declined, Trade Unions with 6,468 members having 5.5 per cent. unemployed, against 4.8 a month ago, and 4.2 a year ago. Lithographic artists, however, are fairly well employed, and the process trade remains busy. With bookbinders employment continues bad, the percentage unemployed of 6,992 Trade Union members at the end of July being 7.0, against 6.6 a month ago, and 5.8 a year ago.

In the following Table are shown the percentages unemployed in certain Trade Unions in the *Printing and Bookbinding Trades* in the principal districts, compared with those for a month ago and a year ago:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of July, 1904, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		July, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	22,877	5.1	4.8	5.4	+ 0.3	- 0.3
Northern Counties ...	1,444	2.5	4.0	1.9	- 1.5	+ 0.6
Lancs. and Cheshire...	6,788	4.8	7.9	4.9	- 3.1	- 0.1
Yorkshire	4,167	3.3	4.7	4.6	- 1.4	- 1.3
East Midlands	2,097	3.5	4.7	2.1	- 1.2	+ 1.4
West Midlands	2,482	4.7	7.5	3.0	- 2.8	+ 1.7
Eastern Counties ...	376	1.1	1.3	4.4	- 0.2	- 3.3
S. & S. W. Counties...	2,623	1.1	2.6	1.7	- 1.5	- 0.6
Wales and Mon.	800	1.3	3.0	1.0	- 1.7	+ 0.3
Scotland	6,284	2.9	3.4	2.1	- 0.5	+ 0.8
Ireland	2,615	8.0	7.1	6.5	+ 0.9	+ 1.5
United Kingdom ...	52,553	4.4	5.1	4.4	- 0.7	...

The following is a summary of the reports received from all sources as regards the principal districts:—

London.—Employment has declined as compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago it has improved with letterpress printers and declined with other branches. Trade Unions of letterpress printers with 17,110 members had 4.3 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 4.2 per cent. a month ago and 5.1 per cent. a year ago. In the lithographic trade employment remains slack with printers and good with artists, the percentage of unemployed Trade Union members being 6.5 at the end of July, against 5.7 in June and 5.6 a year ago. With bookbinders employment remains bad. Of 3,781 Trade Union members in this section, 8.0 per cent. were unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 7.5 per cent. in June, and 6.7 in July, 1903.

Northern Counties.—Employment is quiet at Newcastle; elsewhere it is good.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment has improved with printers and is now fairly good, but it remains quiet with bookbinders.

Yorkshire.—Letterpress printers report employment as quiet at Leeds, Hull, Halifax and Barnsley; good at Sheffield, Bradford, Huddersfield, Wakefield, York and Scarborough. With lithographic printers and bookbinders employment is quiet.

East Midland Counties.—Employment with letterpress printers is reported as good at Derby, Northampton and Lincoln; moderate at Leicester, slack at Nottingham. With lithographic printers it is quiet; with bookbinders it is fairly good.

West Midland Counties.—At Birmingham and Wolverhampton employment remains quiet generally. Elsewhere it is fairly good.

Eastern, Southern and South-Western Counties, and Wales.—Employment is good generally.

Scotland.—With letterpress printers employment is good at Edinburgh and Dundee; quiet at Glasgow; moderate at Aberdeen. With lithographic printers and bookbinders it is quiet generally, but fairly good at Aberdeen.

Ireland.—Employment is dull, except with letterpress printers in Dublin, who are fairly well employed.

PAPER TRADES.

Employment in these trades remains fair, but is hardly so good as a month and a year ago. Branches of Trade Unions with 2,402 members had 3.2 per cent. unemployed

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—PAPER; FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES; GLASS, &C., TRADES.

at the end of July, as compared with 2.7 per cent. at the end of June, and 2.6 per cent. a year ago. Returns received from 23 employers in Scotland show that 4,892 workpeople were employed by them at the end of July, as compared with 4,886 at the end of June, and 4,894 at the end of July, 1903.

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

INFORMATION has been received from 4 Employers' Associations, from 36 Trade Unions with 33,156 members, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment during July continued dull, and was about the same as a month ago, but worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members in the furnishing and woodworking trades at the end of July was 5.7, as compared with 5.5 per cent. in June, and 4.2 per cent. a year ago.

Millsawyers and Woodworking Machinists.

Employment generally with millsawyers and wood-working machinists was slack. Reports show that it was bad at Grantham and Hull, in the Potteries district, and at Belfast; dull at Edinburgh and Dublin; slack in London and at Norwich, Nottingham, Sheffield, in the Tees and Hartlepool district, and at Glasgow and Dundee; unsettled in the Tyne and Wear district; quiet at Plymouth; moderate at Bristol, Gloucester, Leicester, Birmingham and Liverpool; fair in Suffolk and Essex, and in South Wales; and good at Northampton, Aberdeen, and Cork.

Furnishing Trades.

In the furnishing trades employment was slack, about the same as a month ago, but worse than a year ago. Sixteen Trade Unions, with a membership of 13,053, show 1,006 (or 7.5 per cent.) unemployed at the end of July, as compared with 8.0 per cent. at the end of June, and 4.7 per cent. a year ago. According to the reports received, employment with *cabinet makers* was bad in London, Birmingham, Nottingham, Leicester, Warrington, Manchester, Liverpool, Tees and Hartlepool district, and Govan; dull at Bristol, Dalry, and Beith; slack at Hull, Sheffield and Leeds, and in South Wales; quiet at Rotherham, Glasgow, Greenock, and Dundee; fair in Suffolk and Essex, and at Renfrew, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Belfast, and Dublin; fairly good at Barnsley, and in the Tyne and Wear district. With *upholsterers* employment was dull in London and at Bristol and Glasgow; quiet at Nottingham and Leicester; fair at Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Belfast, and Dublin; and good at Barnsley, and in the Tyne and Wear district. With *French polishers* it was bad in London, and at Manchester and Glasgow; and quiet at Liverpool, Edinburgh, and Belfast.

Coopers.

Employment with coopers was dull, and about the same as a month ago and a year ago. Reports received show that it was bad at Birmingham, Greenock, and Edinburgh; dull at Burton-on-Trent, Liverpool, and Glasgow; quiet at Manchester and Belfast; fair in London, and at Bristol and Hull; and good in the Tyne and Wear district, and at Fraserburgh, Peterhead, Dublin, and Cork.

Coachbuilding.

In the coachbuilding industry employment was quiet; compared with a month ago and a year ago it showed little change. Trade Unions of coachmakers, wheelwrights, smiths, &c., with a membership of 7,826, report 266 (or 3.4 per cent.) as unemployed at the end of July, as compared with 2.8 per cent. a month ago, and 2.9 per cent. a year ago. Employment was bad at Liverpool and Edinburgh; slack at Norwich and Hull; quiet in London and at Birmingham, Rotherham, and Glasgow; moderate at Exeter, Northampton, Leicester, Nottingham, Leeds, and Cork; fair at Plymouth, Bristol, Gloucester, Swindon, Derby, Selby, Sheffield, Manchester, Dundee, Belfast, and Dublin; and good in South Wales.

Miscellaneous.

Brushmakers.—Employment with brush-makers was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions, with a membership of 1,615, report 151 (or 9.3 per cent.) as unemployed at the end of July, as compared with 5.8 per cent. at the end of June, and 5.6 per cent. a year ago. Employment is reported as bad at Hull and Leeds; slack in London; fair at Norwich, Bristol, and Dublin; and fairly good at Glasgow.

Other Trades.—Employment with packing-case makers was bad at Birmingham and Nottingham, dull in London and at Belfast, and fair at Bristol, Bolton, Bury, and Glasgow; with basket makers it was quiet in London, fair at Nottingham, and good at Leicester and Glasgow; with stick makers and mounters it continued bad in London; with lath-renders it was bad in London, dull at Glasgow, slack at Norwich and Dundee, moderate in the Tyne and Wear district, fair at Bristol and Hull, and good at Edinburgh; with wood-turners it continued good at Glasgow; with carvers it was quiet at Birmingham; with gilders it was quiet in London and at Glasgow; with bobbin and shuttle makers it was fair at Dundee and good at Barnsley; and with organ builders it continued fair in London and good at Sheffield.

GLASS, POTTERY, AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.

INFORMATION has been received from 13 Employers' Associations, 11 Trade Unions in the Glass Trade with 4,977 members, 1 Trade Union in the Brick Trade, Local Correspondents, and 1 firm of employers.

Employment in the *Glass* trade was bad in the bottle-making branch and worse than a month ago; in the flint-glass branch it continued slack. It also continued slack in the *Pottery* trades, and in the *Brick and Tile* trades.

Glass Trades.—Employment with glass bottle-makers is reported as bad at Bristol, Leeds, Seaham Harbour, Glasgow, Alloa, and Portobello; slack in the Wear district; moderate at Mexboro', Barnsley, and St. Helens; fair at Wakefield and Dublin; and slightly improved at Castleford. With makers of medicine bottles at Rotherham employment continued quiet. Flint glass makers report employment as bad at Gateshead and Edinburgh; dull at Glasgow; slack at Stourbridge, and fair at Birmingham. Flint-glass cutters report it as bad at Glasgow and Edinburgh, slack at Wordsley, and quiet at Birmingham. Employment with flint-glass workers at Barnsley continued moderate. With sheet-glass flatteners at St. Helens it continued fair; with pressed-glass workers it continued bad at Gateshead and dull at Glasgow; with plate glass bevellers at Birmingham it was slack; and with decorative glass workers at Liverpool it was fair. Employment with glass blowers in London continued bad.

Pottery Trades.—In Staffordshire employment was bad with hollow-ware and sanitary pressers, slack with printers and transferers, and ovenmen and kilnmen, quiet with packers, fair with encaustic and decorated tile workers, and slightly improved with china and earthenware decorators. In all branches there was much short time. Employment with china potters at Longton showed little change. At Swadincote (Derbyshire) employment with hollow-ware and sanitary pressers continued bad, and at Newcastle-on-Tyne it was fair. With earthenware workers in the Woodville district it was quiet. Employment with potters was fair at Bideford and Barnstaple and good in South Devon.

In Scotland employment was fair. In the Glasgow district it was dull with tobacco-pipe makers and finishers, and fair with stoneware throwers and white hollow-ware potters.

Brickmaking.—Reports show that employment continued bad in the Birmingham, West Bromwich, and Glasgow districts, and at Nottingham. It was slack in the Peterboro' district; quiet at Calstock and in the Woodville district; fair in South Staffordshire; moderate at

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR; DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

Exeter and in the Plymouth and Oldham districts; fairly good at Cambridge, Norwich, Wroxham, in the Market Harbour district, and in North Wales; and good in Suffolk and Essex, and in the Tees district.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

INFORMATION as to the condition of employment in agriculture in England was received from 198 correspondents in various parts of England. The reports show that the weather during July was, on the whole, very favourable for agricultural operations. Dry weather prevailed during nearly the whole period, and the hay crop was secured without interruption in good condition, the farmers generally being able to make full use of machines. A few showery days at the end of the month greatly benefited the root crops, and enabled hoeing and turnip-drilling to be proceeded with. At the end of the month the corn harvest had commenced in some of the southern counties. The supply of casual or day labourers was, generally speaking, about sufficient.

Northern Counties.—The reports from *Cumberland* and *Westmorland* show that employment was plentiful at haymaking and hoeing. A correspondent in the Carlisle Union states that extra men were scarce, and in some cases they received an advance of 1s. or 1s. 6d. a day. The supply of men for permanent situations is stated to have been sufficient. Regularity of employment is reported in *Lancashire*. In *Yorkshire* employment was fairly regular. The hay harvest and the hoeing of turnips and potatoes were for the most part completed by the end of July, and casual labour was then in less demand. The supply of extra men was about equal to requirements.

Midland Counties.—Agricultural labourers in *Cheshire* and *Derbyshire* were well employed during July. In *Nottinghamshire* and *Leicestershire* employment was regular. Day labourers are said to have been more plentiful in certain districts owing to some slackness of work in the coal mines. Men for permanent situations were rather less difficult to obtain than a year ago. Reports from *Staffordshire* and *Shropshire* state that, owing to the fine weather, the hay crop was quickly secured, at a minimum cost for labour. Day labourers were generally in full work. Regularity of employment is reported in *Worcestershire* and *Warwickshire*. The hay crop is stated to have been somewhat light, and but few extra men were required. A shortage of day labourers is reported in one or two districts.

Reports from *Northamptonshire* state that farm labourers were, generally speaking, in full employment during July. The demand for day labourers for haymaking and hoeing roots was not quite so great as usual. In *Oxfordshire* and *Buckinghamshire* extra men were not in much demand, and in some districts the supply was in excess. Men for permanent situations were difficult to find. Reports from *Hertfordshire* and *Bedfordshire* state that as the haymaking was quickly got through, and the root crops did not require much hoeing, a few day labourers were out of work at the end of the month. Men for permanent situations were in request.

Eastern Counties.—Correspondents in *Huntingdonshire* and *Cambridgeshire* report that the haymaking provided full employment until nearly the end of July, and extra men were in demand. Farm labourers in *Lincolnshire* were for the most part fully occupied in haymaking. The rain in the last week of July caused an unusual demand for extra men for hoeing. Men for permanent situations are rather more plentiful, but there is a scarcity of youths for working with horses. Regularity of employment is reported in *Norfolk*. After the haymaking, there was a good deal of turnip hoeing and singling to be done. The supply of day labourers was rather in excess of the demand in some districts. In *Suffolk* and *Essex* there was plentiful employment in haymaking, cleaning roots, &c. In certain districts, however, some day labourers were in irregular work at the end of the month, as there was but little turnip hoeing in conse-

quence of the drought. Men for tending cattle and horses are said to be difficult to obtain in some districts.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—According to reports from *Kent*, farm labourers were fully employed at haymaking, hoeing, and other work. The corn harvest had commenced in some districts at the end of July. The supply of extra men was somewhat in excess of the demand, except in a few districts. In *Surrey* and *Sussex* employment was regular at haymaking, washing hops, and attending to root crops. The supply of day labourers was generally in excess of the demand. Men for permanent situations were somewhat less difficult to get, but a scarcity of cowmen and carters is referred to in a report from the Battle Union. In *Hampshire* and *Berkshire* the men were fully employed during the hay harvest. The root crops, however, were backward in some districts through the drought and required less labour for hoeing than usual.

Reports from *Wiltshire* and *Dorsetshire* show that farm labourers were regularly employed, except on a few stormy days at the end of the month. Men for permanent situations were in demand. Similar reports come from *Somersetshire*. In *Herefordshire* and *Gloucestershire* farm labourers were fully employed. Stockmen, waggoners, and hedgers were in demand. Correspondents in *Devon* and *Cornwall* state that the haymaking furnished plenty of work while it lasted, and that the corn harvest had commenced in some parts at the end of July. The supply of day labourers was better than a year ago, but a scarcity is referred to in reports from some districts. Men for permanent situations continue to be in request.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

RETURNS as to the employment of this class of labour in the Port of London have been received from the dock companies, the owners of the principal wharves, the Shipping Federation, and from Trade Unions. Information respecting other principal ports has been supplied by Superintendents of Mercantile Marine, by Trade Unions, and by Local Correspondents of the Department.

Employment during July remained moderate, showing a decline on the whole as compared with a year ago.

London.

The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves during the five weeks ended July 30th was 12,737, an increase of 4.0 per cent. on the average for June, and a decrease of 5.8 per cent. as compared with July, 1903. The average daily number employed in July during the seven years, 1897-1903, was 14,866.

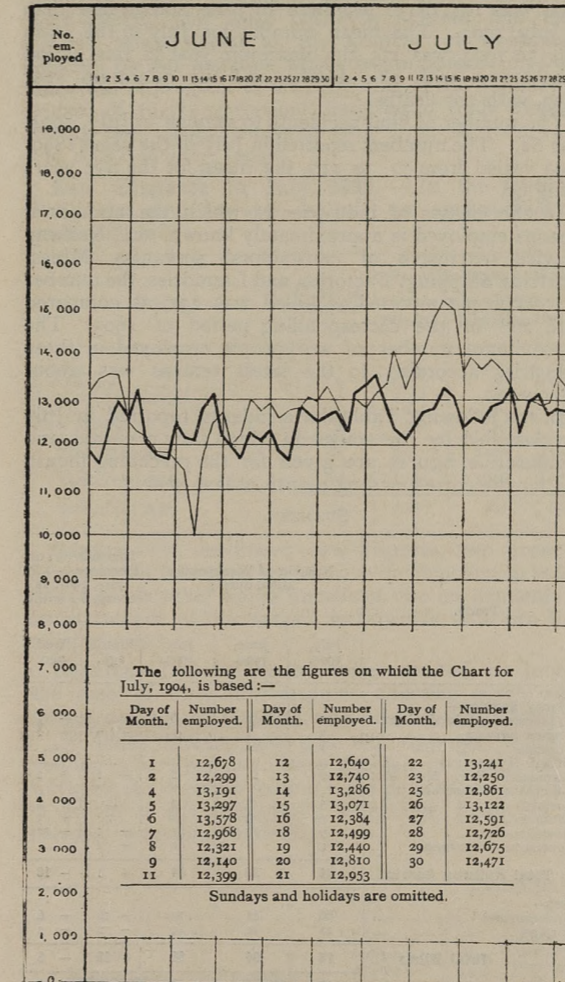
(1) **Weekly Averages.**—The following Table shows the estimated average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily in each of the five weeks ended July 30th:—

Period.	Labourers employed in Docks			Labourers employed at 115 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended July 2nd	5,315	1,991	7,306	5,288	12,594
" " 9th	5,912	1,796	7,708	5,192	12,900
" " 16th	5,748	1,896	7,644	5,109	12,753
" " 23rd	5,038	2,228	7,266	5,433	12,699
" " 30th	5,188	2,062	7,250	5,491	12,741
Average for 5 weeks ended July 30th	5,440	1,995	7,435	5,302	12,737
Average for June, 1904	4,663	2,264	6,927	5,315	12,242
Average for July, 1903	6,191	2,170	8,361	6,163	13,524

(2) **Daily Fluctuations.**—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves is shown in the following Chart. The numbers in July ranged from 13,578 on the 6th to 12,140 on the 9th. During July, 1903, the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed ranged from 12,236 on the 4th to 15,146 on the 16th.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR; SEAMEN; FISHING.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 115 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of June and July, 1904. The corresponding curve for June and July, 1903, is also given for comparison. [The thick curve applies to 1904, and the thin curve to 1903.]



The following are the figures on which the Chart for July, 1904, is based:—

Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.
1	12,678	12	12,640
2	12,299	13	12,740
4	13,191	14	12,256
5	13,297	15	13,071
6	13,578	16	12,384
7	12,968	18	12,499
8	12,321	19	12,440
9	12,140	20	12,810
11	12,399	21	12,953

Sundays and holidays are omitted.

Employment was moderate with workers in mid-stream, stevedores, and corn porters. With deal porters, lumpers, and lightermen it was fair; with corn porters and winchmen dull. With fruit porters in Thames-street it remained moderate, the average daily number employed being 258, as compared with 269 in June, and 298 a year ago.

Of the 3,411 "free labourers" on the register of the Shipping Federation in the Port of London during July, 1904, 65 per cent. were, on the average, employed by the shipowners to whom the office supplies labour, as compared with 71 per cent. in the previous month, and 56 per cent. in July, 1903.

Other Ports.

North-East Coast.—Employment has been moderate at Newcastle, South Shields, Sunderland and Hartlepool; fair at Middlesbrough.

Hull, Goole, and Grimsby.—The timber trade workers and coal porters at Hull report employment as fair; the dock labourers as slack. Employment is fairly good at Grimsby and Goole.

Norfolk and Suffolk.—Dock and riverside labourers at Yarmouth and Lowestoft describe employment as fair, though below the average. It is good at Parkeston, fair at Harwich, moderate at Ipswich.

Southampton and Plymouth.—Employment has been moderate on the whole.

Bristol Channel Ports.—Employment was fair at the principal ports.

Liverpool.—Employment remained dull generally.

The Clyde.—Employment at Glasgow continued bad. **East of Scotland Ports.**—Employment is reported as moderate at Leith; good at Methil; fair at Aberdeen and Dundee.

Irish Ports.—Employment at Dublin, Belfast and Cork is reported as fair.

SEAMEN SHIPPED IN JULY.

(Data supplied by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.)

RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the Foreign Trade is entered and cleared) show that, during July, 39,911* seamen were shipped on foreign-going vessels, a decrease of 3,042 on the number shipped during July, 1903.

The supply of seamen is stated to have been in excess of, or equal to, the demand at the ports included in the returns.

During the seven months of 1904, 252,736* seamen were shipped, of whom 39,087 (or 15.5 per cent.) were foreigners. During the corresponding period of 1903, 247,563* seamen were shipped, of whom 39,369 (or 15.9 per cent.) were foreigners.

Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures.

Table showing the number* of persons shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in July, 1904 and 1903 respectively, together with the number* shipped in the seven months ended July in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Persons shipped in July, 1904.*			Total in July, 1903.*	Total number* shipped in seven months ended July.	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in July, 1904.*		1904.	1903.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports	61	425	486	503	2,642	2,642
Sunderland	...	3,534	3,534	3,782	20,431	20,108
Middlesbrough	...	342	342	303	3,456	3,528
Hull	...	1,705	1,724	1,677	1,748	1,500
Grimsby	...	306	306	291	7,829	7,678
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol†	...	633	633	793	4,491	4,578
Newport, Mon.	...	1,192	1,233	901	5,843	5,258
Cardiff‡	...	105	4,295	4,401	6,473	31,833
Swansea	...	53	507	560	932	2,941
Other Ports.						
Liverpool	...	210	13,964	14,174	14,817	90,251
London	...	132	5,856	5,988	6,636	42,038
Southampton	...	2	1,915	1,917	2,101	15,029
SCOTLAND.						
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil, & Grangemouth	...	1,118	1,118	1,107	4,260	4,657
Glasgow	...	39	3,201	3,240	3,327	19,604
IRELAND.						
Dublin	...	...	38	38	226	509
Belfast	...	...	200	217	284	1,793
Total, July, 1904	679	39,232	39,911	...	252,736	...
Ditto, July, 1903	783	42,170	...	42,953	...	247,563

FISHING INDUSTRY.

INFORMATION has been received from Collectors of Fishery Statistics for England; from the Fishery Board for Scotland; and from Local Correspondents.

From the Tyne and Wear it is reported that fair supplies of white fish were landed by the trawl boats and that the herring boats landed moderate supplies.

Employment at Hull is reported as slack by the trawl fishermen, and also with the fish dock labourers and with persons employed in fish curing. At Grimsby it is reported as moderate on the whole, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. At Yarmouth it was good among fishermen, and fair with fish dock labourers and persons employed in fish curing. At Lowestoft it was bad in all branches.

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, not of separate individuals.
† Including Avonmouth and Portishead.
‡ Including Barry and Penarth.

Off the South-western coast trawlers landed fair catches, and hook and line boats and drifters landed good catches. Fish packers and carters were moderately employed.

At Cardiff, Milford, and Cardigan the catches landed were good, although not equal to those of a month ago.

At Aberdeen about 40 trawl vessels were laid up, and consequently employment was bad among fishermen and fish dock labourers. With persons employed in fish curing employment was good. At Peterhead it was good in all branches, and at Fraserburgh and Macduff, fair. At all three ports it was better than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago. At Dundee, Arbroath, and Montrose the catches were fair.

Off the South and South-Western coast of Ireland the deep sea fishing was good during the month.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

DURING July 37 cases of lead poisoning, and 2 cases of anthrax were reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act. No cases of mercurial, phosphorus, or arsenic poisoning were reported. The number of deaths was six, four of which were due to lead poisoning.

During the seven months ended July the number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax was 344 as compared with 389 in the corresponding period of 1903. The number of deaths was 20, being 1 less than in 1903. The decline in the number of deaths from anthrax is noticeable.

[Cases include all attacks, fatal or otherwise, reported to the Home Office during the month, and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.]

Disease and Industry.	CASES.		DEATHS.	
	7 months ended July,		7 months ended July,	
	July, 1904.	1903.	July, 1904.	1903.
Lead Poisoning—				
Smelting of Metals	3	17	14	—
Brass Works	1	4	6	1
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping	—	4	6	—
Plumbing and Soldering	3	13	13	—
Printing	—	9	6	—
File Cutting	—	15	17	—
Tinning and Enamelling of Iron	—	7	6	—
Hollow-ware	—	7	6	—
White Lead Works	7	51	67	1
Red and Yellow Lead Works	—	7	4	—
China and Earthenware*	4	61	64	1
Litho-transfer Works	—	2	2	—
Glass Cutting and Polishing	—	1	3	—
Enamelling of Iron Plates	1	1	2	—
Electrical Accumulator Works	1	9	15	—
Paint and Colour Works	4	14	24	—
Coach Making	3	28	45	—
Shipbuilding	3	27	12	—
Paint used in other Industries	3	14	20	—
Other Industries	4	23	16	—
Total Lead Poisoning†	37	307	345	4
Mercurial Poisoning—				
Barometer and Thermometer making	—	1	2	—
Furriers' processes	—	1	1	—
Other Industries	—	1	3	—
Total Mercurial Poisoning	—	2	6	—
Phosphorus Poisoning	—	1	—	1
Arsenic Poisoning—				
Paints, Colours and Extraction of Arsenic	—	2	3	—
Other Industries	—	2	2	—
Total Arsenic Poisoning	—	4	5	—
Anthrax—				
Wool Sorting	—	2	4	—
Wool Combing	—	6	13	—
Handling of Horsehair	1	8	2	1
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	1	8	8	1
Other Industries	—	6	6	—
Total Anthrax	2	30	33	2
Grand Total	39	344	389	6

* Of the four persons affected in the china and earthenware industry in July, 1904, three were females.
† House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table 24 cases of lead poisoning (including 2 deaths) were reported during July, among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported during the seven months ended July, 1904, was 107 (including 22 deaths), and for the corresponding period of 1903, 108 (including 23 deaths).

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN JULY.

(Based on information supplied by the Home Office and the Board of Trade.)

EXCLUSIVE of seamen, the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during July, 1904, was 194, or 36 less than in June, and 29 less than in July, 1903. The mean number for July in the years 1899 to 1903, was 223, the maximum year in this period being 1900, with 234 deaths, and the minimum year 1899, with 207 deaths.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen in July, 1904, was 62. The numbers reported in July of the years 1899-1903 varied from 71 to 117, the mean for the five years being 90.

In the classes of industries in which the number of persons employed is approximately known, viz., Railway Service (exclusive of contractors' servants), Mines, Quarries, Shipping, Factories, and Laundries, the number of workpeople reported as killed was 231, as compared with 268 in the corresponding period of 1903. The approximate number of workpeople employed in these industries according to the latest returns was about 5,800,000.

In the following Table the accidents reported in July are classified by the trades in which they occurred, and comparative figures are given for the preceding month and for the corresponding month of last year.

SUMMARY.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in July, 1904, as compared with a	
	July, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1903.	Month ago.	Year ago.
	Railway Service—				
Brakemen and Goods Guards	1	1	6	—	— 5
Engine Drivers	3	1	1	+ 2	+ 2
Firemen	1	—	1	+ 1	—
Guards (Passenger)	—	—	—	—	—
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	10	11	8	— 1	+ 2
Porters	5	5	3	—	+ 2
Shunters	3	3	2	—	+ 1
Miscellaneous	9	12	21	— 3	— 12
Contractors' Servants	2	—	2	+ 2	—
Total Railway Service	34	38	44	+ 1	— 10
Mines—					
Underground	56	82	72	— 16	— 6
Surface	10	12	12	— 2	— 2
Total Mines	76	94	84	— 18	— 8
Quarries over 20 feet deep	15	9	8	+ 6	+ 7
Factories—					
Textile—					
Cotton	1	2	5	— 1	— 4
Wool and Worsted	—	3	1	— 3	— 1
Other Textiles	1	1	2	—	— 1
Non Textile—					
Extraction of Metals	4	4	3	—	+ 1
Founding and Conversion of Metals	9	10	7	— 1	+ 2
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	2	3	3	— 1	— 1
Ship and Boat Building	5	11	7	— 6	— 2
Wood	1	1	2	—	— 1
Chemicals, &c.	5	2	3	+ 3	+ 2
Other Non-Textile Industries	18	23	30	— 5	— 12
Total Factories	46	60	63	— 14	— 17
Workshops	1	—	—	+ 1	+ 1
Accidents reported under Factory Act, 1903—					
Docks, Wharves, and Quays	4	12	6	— 8	— 2
Warehouses	1	4	2	— 3	— 1
Buildings to which Act applies	12	13	14	— 1	— 2
Laundries	—	—	—	—	—
Total under Factory Act, 1903	17	29	22	— 12	— 5
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	5	5	2	—	+ 3
Total, exclusive of Seamen	194	230	223	— 36	— 29
Seamen—					
On Trading Vessels—					
Sailing	12	11	18	+ 1	— 6
Steam	45	57	42	— 12	+ 3
On Fishing Vessels—					
Sailing	3	2	4	+ 1	— 1
Steam	2	3	7	— 1	— 5
Total Seamen	62	73	71	— 11	— 9
Total, including Seamen	256	303	294	— 47	— 38

TRADE DISPUTES IN JULY.*

Number and Magnitude.—Fifteen new disputes began in July, 1904, compared with 16 in June and 14 in July, 1903. By the 15 disputes 8,651 workpeople were directly and 2,940 indirectly affected, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople affected by old disputes which began before July, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 16,322 workpeople involved in trade disputes during July, 1904, compared with 6,792 in June, 1904, and 10,100 in July, 1903.

New Disputes in July, 1904.—In the following Table the new disputes in July are summarised by trades affected:—

Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople affected.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building	2	3,520	2,000	5,520
Coal Mining	3	2,651	50	2,701
Metal and Engineering	4	2,090	600	2,690
Textile	2	250	280	530
Other Trades	4	140	10	150
Total, July, 1904	15	8,651	2,940	11,591
Total, June, 1904	16	3,142	1,589	4,731
Total, July, 1903	14	4,197	985	5,182

Causes.—Of the fifteen new disputes, two arose on demands for increased wages, five on objection to reduction, four on other wages questions, two on demands for reinstatement of discharged workpeople, and two from other causes.

Results.—Definite results were reported in July in the case of nine new disputes, affecting 4,723 workpeople, and six old disputes, affecting 1,256 workpeople.

Of these fifteen new and old disputes, four, involving 3,751 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; eight, involving 1,404 persons, were decided in favour of the employers; and three, involving 824 persons, were compromised.

Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupation.†	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
		Directly.	Indirectly.				
Masons, Labourers, Crane Drivers and Carters	Glasgow ...	3,500	2,000	1 July	...	Against proposed reduction in wages from 9d. to 9d. per hour	No settlement reported.
Masons	Sheffield ...	200	...	21 May	37	Against proposed alterations of rules affecting apprentices and other matters, and against reduction of 3d. per hour in fixers' wages	Compromise arranged.
Colliery Workpeople ...	Aberaman ...	1,583	50	1 July	2	Refusal to work with non-unionists...	Non-unionists joined the South Wales Miners' Federation.
Ship Painters	Tyne, Tees and Hartlepool	350	...	18 Apr.	83	For advance in wages of 2s. a week...	Work resumed at old rate.
Steel Smelters	Workington ...	2,000	...	26 July	1	For reinstatement of certain men ...	Men reinstated.
Firemen and Mechanics Steel and Tinplate Workers, &c.	Morrison ...	24	600	11 July	12	Dissatisfaction with rates of wages ...	Work resumed pending arbitration.

* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration exceeded 100 days.

† In making up the totals for the several months of 1904 the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information.

‡ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly affected," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the dispute occurred, but not themselves on strike or locked-out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 20 of the principal railway companies of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended July 30th amounted to £7,936,392, a decrease of £57,056 (or 0.7 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. The receipts from passenger traffic were £4,335,765, an increase of £48,589. The receipts from goods and mineral traffic amounted to £3,600,627 in the four weeks, or a decrease of £105,645. Of the £3,600,627 received under this head, £2,443,506 was received by the Northern lines of England, showing a

decrease of £107,650 on the corresponding four weeks in 1903. The Southern and Western lines and those in Scotland and Ireland together received £1,157,121, an increase of £2,005.

Aggregate Duration.—The aggregate duration in July of disputes that commenced or were settled in that month was 181,900 working days. In addition, 80,900 working days were lost in July, owing to disputes that began before that month, and at the end of the month were still unsettled. Thus the total duration in July of all disputes, new and old, was 262,800 working days, which compares with 81,300 in the previous month, and 130,800 in the corresponding month of 1903.

Summary for the First Seven Months of 1903 and 1904.—Summarised by trades, the number of disputes, the number of workpeople affected, and the aggregate duration in working days for the seven months January-July, 1903 and 1904, respectively, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January to July,					
	1903.			1904.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.
Building	30	3,772	92,700	29	8,376	229,300
Mining and Quarrying	60	25,346	911,500	57	19,378	298,800
Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding	34	11,411	264,600	38	8,292	121,200
Textile	30	4,568	35,600	25	4,974	77,600
Clothing	16	2,051	94,500	14	446	5,950
Transport	6	907	9,200	3	830	20,350
Other Trades	15	1,173	36,100	23	1,738	34,100
Total	191	49,228	1,444,200	189	44,034	787,810

Principal Disputes.—Particulars of the six principal disputes which began or were settled during July are given below. The details of the other disputes in progress during July are not separately stated in this Table, but they are included in the preceding statistics.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The following statement has been communicated to the LABOUR GAZETTE by the Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade:—

Summary for July.

The trade returns for July, 1904, show a decrease in the value, as compared with the corresponding month of 1903, of the Imports into the United Kingdom, of the Exports of British produce, and of the Exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The value of the Imports in July, 1904, was £40,956,601, a decrease of £4,696,719, or 10·2 per cent., as compared with those in July, 1903, whilst the total Exports amounted to £30,077,296, showing a total decrease of £1,463,767. The Exports of British produce alone show a decrease of £1,091,963, or 4·2 per cent., as compared with July, 1903, whilst there is a decrease of £371,804, or 6·5 per cent., in the Exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

Imports.*—The following Table shows the value of the Imports for July, 1904, as compared with the corresponding months of 1903 and 1902, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

	Month of July.			Decrease in 1904 as compared with	
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1902.
I.—Food, Drink and Tobacco.	£19,019,184	£21,770,834	£18,113,045	—3,656,889	—
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured.	13,517,022	12,699,681	11,969,264	—730,417	—1,547,758
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured.	11,267,147	10,993,705	10,701,627	—292,078	—565,520
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post).	283,607	189,100	171,765	—17,335	—111,842
Total value of Imports	44,086,960	45,653,320	40,956,601	—4,696,719	—3,130,359

Exports.†—The following Table shows the value of the Exports of British produce for the month of July, 1904, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1903 and 1902, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

	Month of July.			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1904 as compared with	
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1902.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco.	£1,672,563	£1,455,185	£1,444,063	—£11,122	—
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured.	3,079,515	3,174,607	2,905,729	—268,878	—173,786
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured.	20,967,373	20,942,012	20,071,148	—870,864	—896,225
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post).	309,779	303,741	362,642	+58,901	+52,923
Total value of Exports of British produce	26,029,170	25,875,545	24,783,582	—1,091,963	—1,245,588

Tonnage of Ships entered and cleared with Cargoes.

—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month of July, 1904, amounted to 3,530,421 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 4,192,855 tons, as against 3,660,294 tons entered, and 4,330,514 tons cleared in the month of July, 1903. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during July, 1904, amounted to 2,751,007 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,691,052 tons, as against 2,787,632 tons entered, and 2,727,536 tons cleared in July, 1903.

* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or, when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

† The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

PAUPERISM IN JULY.

(Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland, and Ireland.)

The number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in July was 360,073 (viz., 153,217 indoor and 206,856 outdoor paupers), corresponding to a rate of 210 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts in 1904.

Compared with June the number of persons relieved has decreased by 3,721, and the rate per 10,000 by 2. This decline is due to a decrease of 2,412 in the number of indoor paupers, and of 1309 in the number of outdoor paupers. Decrease are shown in twenty-six districts, the rate of decrease being greatest in the Glasgow district (11 per 10,000), and Central London district (10 per 10,000). Increases occur in eight districts, and in one district no change is indicated.

Compared with July, 1903, the number of persons relieved has increased by 19,902 and the rate per 10,000 by 9. The number of indoor paupers shows an increase of 8,992 (or 6·2 per cent.), and outdoor paupers of 10,910 (or 5·6 per cent.). Increases are shown in twenty-nine districts the rate of increase being greatest in the Leicester district (41 per 10,000), North Staffordshire (31), West Ham (25) and East London (22). In four cases the rate has declined, the falling off being most marked in two Irish districts. In the remaining two districts no change is shown.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of July, 1904.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		A month ago.	A year ago.
	ENGLAND & WALES.*					
Metropolises.						
West District ...	10,476	3,228	13,704	166	—4	+4
North District ...	14,989	8,321	23,310	218	—3	+8
Central District ...	6,499	2,820	9,319	468	—10	+10
East District ...	14,112	5,992	20,104	280	—6	+22
South District ...	22,906	17,753	40,659	224	—5	+2
Total Metropolises ...	68,982	38,114	107,096	231	—5	+7
West Ham ...	3,692	10,063	13,755	213	—1	+25
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District ...	1,922	4,818	6,740	159	—1	+10
Stockton & Tees District ..	1,197	3,899	5,096	239	—2	+12
Bolton, Oldham, &c. ...	4,011	8,926	12,937	171	—5	+19
Wigan District ...	1,997	6,325	8,322	211	—4	+5
Manchester District ...	9,084	9,032	18,116	196	—4	+19
Liverpool District ...	11,118	9,170	20,288	200	—1	+13
Bradford District ...	1,571	2,707	4,278	118	—1	+3
Halifax & Huddersfield ...	1,261	3,772	5,033	138	—1	+7
Leeds District ...	2,198	6,260	8,458	186	+1	+9
Barnsley District ...	715	3,011	3,726	157	—1	+12
Sheffield District ...	2,879	3,967	6,846	160	—2	+12
Hull District ...	1,370	5,140	6,510	243	—3	—3
North Staffordshire ...	2,176	7,968	10,144	276	+3	+31
Nottingham District ...	1,950	5,570	7,520	187	—2	+17
Leicester District ...	1,221	4,155	5,376	241	+4	+41
Wolverhampton District ...	3,453	13,006	16,459	258	—1	...
Birmingham District ...	4,630	3,453	8,083	141	—3	+8
Bristol District ...	2,679	6,796	9,475	248	...	+2
Cardiff & Swansea ...	1,731	7,748	9,479	259	—2	+4
Total "Other Districts" ...	57,163	115,773	172,936	196	—2	+12
SCOTLAND.*						
Glasgow District ...	4,831	17,418	22,249	223	—11	...
Paisley & Greenock District ..	658	2,503	3,161	182	+2	+6
Edinburgh & Leith District ..	1,684	5,581	7,265	183	+4	+4
Dundee & Dundfermline ...	1,027	2,835	3,862	195	—1	+5
Aberdeen ...	643	2,892	3,535	217	—3	+5
Coatbridge & Airdrie ...	349	1,451	1,800	193	+9	+16
Total for the above Scottish Districts ...	9,192	32,680	41,872	211	...	+7
IRELAND.†						
Dublin District ...	6,692	5,017	11,709	301	+1	—4
Belfast District ...	3,148	250	3,398	87	—3	+3
Cork, Waterford & Limerick District ...	3,996	4,743	8,739	355	+1	—13
Galway District ...	352	296	648	181	—5	—11
Total for the above Irish Districts ...	14,188	10,286	24,474	280	+1	—5
Total for above 35 Districts in July, 1904	153,217	206,856	360,073	210	—2	+9

* Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small Pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; and of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals, and Licensed Houses.

† Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN JULY.

At eleven Bureaux which furnished returns for both July, 1904 and 1903, 2,765 fresh applications for work were registered during July, 1904, as compared with 2,565 a year ago. During July these Bureaux found work for 1,159 persons, of whom 1,014 were engaged by private employers. During July, 1903, work was found for 1,058 persons, of whom 1,049 were engaged by private employers. The number of persons remaining on the registers at the end of the month was 2,481, as compared with 2,984 a year ago.

Returns were also received from two other Bureaux not in operation a year ago. At the thirteen Bureaux included in the Table below 2,940 fresh applications for work were registered, and work was found for 1,213 persons. The work procured for 344 of these persons was stated to be of a more or less permanent character, while, in the case of 869, temporary employment only was found. Of the 1,213 persons, 1,061 were engaged by private employers, 22 by Local Authorities, and 130 by the Salvation Army. At the end of July, the total number of persons remaining on the registers was 3,104, viz., 2,673 men and boys, and 431 women and girls.

Weekly returns which have been received from the Fulham Municipal Labour Bureau show that, during the four weeks ended July 30th, 163 fresh applications for work were registered and 73 persons found work through the agency of the Bureau.

(I.) Work done in July.

Name of Labour Bureau.	No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during		No. of Situations offered by Employers during		No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureau during	
	July, 1904.	July, 1903.	July, 1904.	July, 1903.	July, 1904.	July, 1903.
	London.					
Battersea (Lavender Hill, S.W.) ...	133	174	22	33	22	33
Salvation Army (Whitechapel Rd. E.) ...	1,157	817	482	356	611	557
St. Pancras (Crownale Rd., N.W.) ...	297	173	112	64	85	38
Southwark (Borough Road, S.E.) ...	28	115	9	3	1	2
Hammersmith (St. Church Lane, W.) ...	26	47	10	18	8	15
Pinsbury (Rosbery Avenue, E.C.) ...	201	237	105	54	68	23
Westminster (Caxton Hall, Caxton Street, S.W.) ...	254	215	106	151	119	116
Provincial.						
Ipswich (Fore Street) ...	34	59	21	43	14	29
Plymouth (Basket Street) ...	158	164	85	101	80	95
Liverpool (Dale Street) ...	122	198	4	5	3	3
Glasgow (158, George Street) ...	343	366	433	399	148	147
Total of 11 Bureaux ...	2,765	2,565	1,389	1,227	1,159	1,058
London.						
Kensington (Lancaster Road, W.) ...	132	...	26	...	47	...
Provincial.						
Wigan (Library Street) ...	43	...	7	...	7	...
Total of 13 Bureaux ...	2,940	...	1,422	...	1,213	...

(II.) Employment found for Workpeople during July, 1904.

Capacity in which employed.	No. permanently engaged.	No. temporarily engaged.	Total.
Engaged by Private Employers.			
Men:—			
Building Trades ...	11	48	59
Carmen, Stablenen, Horsemen, &c. ...	27	13	40
Porters and Messengers ...	80	68	148
Bill Distributors ...	...	478	478
General Labourers ...	12	...	12
Other Occupations ...	30	33	63
Lads and Boys ...	73	12	85
Women and Girls:—			
Domestic Servants ...	50	20	70
Charwomen, daily work, &c. ...	5	55	60
Other Occupations ...	46	...	46
Total engaged by Private Employers ...	334	727	1,061
Engaged by Local Authorities.			
Men, Lads, and Boys ...	10	12	22
Women and Girls ...	...	...	...
Engaged by Salvation Army.			
Men ...	...	130	130
Grand Total of Bureaux ...	344	869	1,213

* Bureau not in operation in July, 1903.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN JULY.

DURING July 661 fresh applications for work were registered by six Bureaux furnishing returns, and 488 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 169 persons, of whom 90 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 169 situations found for applicants, 94 were of a more or less permanent character, while 75 were temporary only.

Compared with the previous month the number of fresh applications for domestic servants fell from 396 to 326; the number permanently engaged fell from 74 to 50. The demand for dressmakers, milliners, etc., fell from 64 to 48, and the number requiring such situations fell from 49 to 37; the number engaged through the Bureaux was 24, compared with 32 in June.

The Returns for the Manchester and Liverpool Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following Table, which shows the work done by the Bureaux during July compared with a month ago and a year ago:—

WORK DONE IN JULY.

	No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers.	No. of Fresh Applications of Workpeople seeking Situations.	No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers.	
			Permanently.	Temporarily.
Summary by Bureaux.				
Central Bureau—				
9, Southampton-street, W.C. ...	64	93	22	14
Society for Promoting Training and Employment—				
22, Berners-street, W. ...	19	78	1	5
Y.W.C.A.—				
26, George-street (1) ...	306	367	40	39
Hanover-square, W. (2) ...	56	69	11	11
Other Bureaux ...	43	54	20	6
Total of 6 Bureaux ...	488	661	94	75
Irish Central Bureau†, Dublin ...	30	38	3	1
Watford Bureau† ...	19	24	2	4
Summary by Occupations.				
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc. ...	19	38	6	1
Shop Assistants ...	4	10	1	1
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc. ...	48	37	9	15
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists ...	14	64	2	6
Apprentices and Learners ...	14	20	14	—
Domestic Servants ...	332	312	50	40
Miscellaneous ...	57	180	12	12
Total Number in July, 1904 ...	488	661	94	75
Total Number in June, 1904 ...	580	617	127	65
Total Number in July, 1903 ...	614	651	98	69

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING JULY.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Factories and Workshops, 1903. Annual Report of the Chief Inspector. Part I.—Reports. Mentions that a return relating to woollen, worsted and shoddy factories, similar to the cotton spindles return of 1903, is in preparation. Also that the return of persons employed (partly dealt with in Supplement to 1902 Report—Cd. 1979) is being completed as regards non-textile factories and workshops. [Cd. 2139: pp. viii. + 334: price 2s. 10d.]

Post Office Wages. Report and Appendices of the Committee appointed to inquire into Post Office Wages. Part I.—Report. [Cd. 2170: pp. 43: price 5d.] Part II.—Minutes of Evidence. [Cd. 2171: pp. xxxvi. + 270: price 2s. 6d.] See page 231.

Census of England and Wales, 1901. General Report with Appendices. [Cd. 2174: pp. vii. + 325: price 2s. 6d.] See page 227.

Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899 (Ireland). Return showing the Local Authorities in Ireland that have put the Act into operation, the number of applicants to whom money has been advanced by each such authority, amounts of advance, and rate of interest charged. [H.C. 221: pp. 4: price 4d.]

Alkali, &c., Works Regulation Acts. Fourteenth Annual Report on Alkali, &c., Works by the Chief Inspector, 1903. Number of registered works, prosecutions, investigations and tests, district reports, &c. [H.C. 213: pp. 183: price 9d.]

Agricultural Statistics, 1903. Report on the Agricultural Returns relating to Acreage and Produce of Crops and number of Live Stock in Great Britain, &c., with particulars of Prices, Imports and Exports of Agricultural Produce. [Cd. 2131: pp. xli. + 290: price 1s. 4d.]

Report on the cultivation and drying of Chicory in Great Britain and Belgium. (Board of Agriculture and Fisheries.) [Cd. 2169: pp. 31: price 2d.]

Supplement to the 37th Annual Report of the Registrar-General of Marriages, Births and Deaths in Ireland, containing Decennial Summaries for the years 1891-1900. [Cd. 2089: pp. 138: price 1s. 8d.]

Railways (Continuous Brakes). Return for the six months ending 31st December, 1903. [Cd. 2162: pp. 106: price 10½d.]

Reports of Mining Inspectors for 1903. Liverpool and North Wales District. [Cd. 2119-VI. pp. 72: price 8½d.] Newcastle District. [Cd. 2119-II. pp. 75: price 9d.]; Manchester and Ireland District. [Cd. 2119-V. pp. 57: price 1s.]; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire District. [Cd. 2119-IV. pp. 47: price 3d.]; Durham District. [Cd. 2119-III. pp. 67: price 8d.]; Report for 1903 of East Scotland District. [Cd. 2119: pp. 46: price 11d.]

Post Office Savings Banks. Accounts of all Deposits Received and Paid during the year ended 31st December, 1903, and of the sums received and paid by the National Debt Commissioners on account of the Fund for the Post Office Savings Banks in the same year. [H.C. 211: pp. 3: price ¾d.]

Report on the Gemeindeschulen of Berlin and Charlottenburg. By George Andrew, one of H.M. Inspectors in Scotland. Report upon visits to schools of the type of English Elementary Schools during the autumn months of 1902 and 1903. [Cd. 2120: pp. 64: price 3d.]

BRITISH COLONIES.

Colonies—Immigration. Papers relative to the Laws and Regulations in force, in the Colonies under responsible government, respecting the admission of Immigrants. Extracts from the Immigration restriction laws and regulations of Newfoundland, Australia, Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Canada, and New Zealand. [Cd. 2105: pp. 108: price 10½d.]

Census Returns of British South Africa. The population of (1) Cape Colony at 17th April, 1904, compared with 5th April, 1891; (2) Transvaal, 17th April, 1904; (3) Orange River Colony at 17th April, 1904, compared with 1880 and 1890; (4) Southern Rhodesia at 17th April, 1904; (5) Natal, 1904. [Cd. 2103: pp. 22: price 2½d.]

Correspondence relating to affairs in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony. [Cd. 2104: pp. 190: price 1s. 7d.]

(All the above-mentioned Reports may be obtained direct from Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding-street, Fleet-street, E.C., or ordered through any bookseller.)

New South Wales.

Industrial Arbitration Reports and Records, 1903. Vol. III., Part 3, 1904. Report of 23 cases. [Sydney, N.S.W.: W. A. Gullick, Government Printer: pp. ix. + 111 + x.: price 5s.]

British Columbia.

Royal Commission to inquire into Industrial Disputes in the Province of British Columbia. Minutes of Evidence. [Ottawa: S. E. Dawson, King's Printer: pp. 864.]

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

United States.

Bi-monthly Bulletin of the Bureau of Labour, Department of Commerce and Labour, Washington. May, 1904. No. 52. Contains report by Dr. Hannah R. Sewall upon "Child Labour in the United States" [Washington, Government Printing Office: pp. 227.]

Wages of Farm Labour in the United States. Results of twelve statistical investigations, 1866-1902. By James H. Blodgett, for the United States Department of Agriculture. [Washington, Government Printing Office: pp. 62.]. See page 228.

18th Annual Report of the State Board of Conciliation and Arbitration of the State of Massachusetts, 1903. Reports of cases in which the State Board took action. Extracts from Conciliation and Arbitration Laws of the various States. [Boston, Wright and Potter Printing Co., State Printers: pp. 419.]

Labour and Industrial Chronology of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the year ending 30th September, 1903. Strikes and lock-outs, changes in wages and hours of labour, trade union proceedings and statistics, labour legislation, &c. [Boston, Wright and Potter Printing Co., State Printers: pp. 107.]

Board of State Charities of Indiana. 14th Annual Report, from 1st November, 1902, to 31st October, 1903. [Indianapolis, W. B. Burford, State Printer: pp. 275.]

Indiana Bulletin of Charities and Correction for three months ending 31st January, 1904. Statistics of official out-door relief given to the poor in 1903; maps showing distribution in the counties of the State for 1897, 1902 and 1903. [Indianapolis: W. B. Burford, State Printer: pp. 81.]

Austria.

Statistical Yearbook of Ministry of Agriculture for 1901, Vol. II., Part 4—Wages and Salaries of Workpeople and Officials in the Mining Industry. [Vienna: K. K. Hof und Staatsdruckerei, 1904: pp. 31.]

Denmark.

Statistics of Copenhagen. XIV.—List of Municipal Properties; XV.—Statistics as to Occupation, Birthplace and Migrations of Inhabitants of Copenhagen and Suburbs on February 1st, 1901. [Copenhagen: I. Cohens Bogtrykkerier, 1904.]

Costa Rica (Central America).

Report of Home Department of Costa Rica, 1903-1904. [San Jose de Costa Rica. Tipografía Nacional, 1904: pp. xlix. + 146.]

Consular Reports. Foreign Office Annual Series. No. 3202. Trade of the Consular District of Chicago, 1903. [Cd. 1766-136: pp. 64: price 3d.]

Consular Reports. No. 3213. Trade of Sicily, 1903. Contains account of the Municipal bakery and flour mills at Palermo. [Cd. 1766-147: pp. 47: price 2½d.]

No. 3214. Trade of Territory of Hawaii, 1903. Shows nationalities of sugar plantation labourers for 1899, 1901 and 1902. [Cd. 1766-148: pp. 9: price 1d.]

No. 3216. Trade of Dunkirk, 1903. Refers to a scheme for fixing minimum sale prices in jute and flax spinning, and to a reduction in hours of work in the latter trade. [Cd. 1766-150: pp. 23: price 1½d.]

No. 3221. Trade of Frankfort-on-Main, 1903. Gives statistics of German Savings Banks, particulars of rents of municipal owned houses, price of corn, agricultural co-operative unions, &c. [Cd. 1766-155: pp. 100: price 5½d.]

No. 3225. Trade of Consular District of Gothenburg, 1903. Gives information as to prices of commodities, cotton mill statistics. [Cd. 1766-159. pp. 36: price 2½d.]

No. 3232. Agriculture of the Consular District of Odessa, 1903. Gives daily and monthly wages of various classes of agricultural labour in the Nicolaieff district, fruit and vegetable wholesale market prices, freights, &c. [Cd. 1766-166: pp. 20: price 1½d.]

Miscellaneous Series, No. 615. Germany. Special Technical Schools for the Ceramic Industries. Shows curriculum, fees, &c. [Cd. 1767-19 pp. 22: price 1½d.]

(The Consular Reports may be obtained direct from Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C., or ordered through any bookseller.)

NOTE.—In addition to the above-mentioned publications, copies have been received of the official journals issued by the Labour Departments of Canada, New Zealand, State of New York, France, Germany, Austria, Italy, Belgium, Norway, and Spain.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN JULY.

(Based on information supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

(1) REGISTERED.

THE total number of Industrial Unions and Societies registered in July, was as follows: Under the Trade Union Acts, 1; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 14; under the Friendly Societies Acts, 24 (including 15 branches of existing societies); under the Building Societies Acts, none; in all, 39.

Among the new Societies registered in July, were the following:—

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—1, viz., Rowsley and District Quarry Owners' Association, Derby. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England and Wales.—

Co-operative Societies mainly for Distribution.—5, viz., Bampton and District Co-op. Soc. (Ltd.), 10 and 11, Luke Street, Bampton, Devon; Flitwick and District Co-op. Coal Soc., (Ltd.), Windmill Road, Flitwick, Ampthill, Beds.; Trade Union Bakers Co-op. Soc. (Ltd.), 186, Cable Street, E.; Aston Magna and Dist. Co-op. Soc. (Ltd.), The Stores, Aston Magna, Worcester; Winchcombe Co-op. Auction Market (Ltd.), The Stores, Winchcombe, R.S.O., Glos. Co-operative Societies mainly for Production.—2, viz., New Co-op. Quarries Pioneer Soc. (Ltd.), 30, Temple House, Tallis Street, E.C.; Excelsior Tank Makers (Ltd.), 76, Victoria Avenue, East Ham, E. Co-operative Agricultural Societies.—2, viz., Pontypridd and Dist. Co-op. Agric. Soc., (Ltd.), The Store, Pontypridd; Worcester-shire Bee-keepers' Co-op. Soc. (Ltd.), School House, Hallow, Worcester. Miscellaneous Societies.—Working Men's Clubs, 2; others, 2. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Co-operative Agricultural Society.—1, viz., Kilworth Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., (Ltd.), Kilworth, Co. Cork.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—8, viz., Stanhope Inst., Self Help Soc., Euston Road, N.W.; Wednesbury Borough Permanent Money Soc., Wednesbury, Staff.; Halifax Literary and Philosophical Soc., Harrison Road, Halifax; Wingate and Station Town Working Men's Club and Inst., Wingate, co. Durham; Romford Working Men's Club and Inst., Romford; Cheltenham Friendly Societies Medical Assn., Cambray, Cheltenham; Winson Green Smith's Arms Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Hand-in-Hand Odd-fellows Friendly Soc., Aston, Birmingham. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—1, viz., Ravensdale and Surrounding Dist. Labourers' Soc., Ravensdale, Dundalk, co. Louth.

(2) DISSOLVED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies reported as having commenced to "wind up," or as having registration cancelled in July, was as follows:— Under the Trade Union Acts, 1; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 15; under the Friendly Societies Acts, 45 (including 17 branches of Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 8; in all 69.

NOTE.—In the above statement a Co-operative Society is entered under the heading (distribution, production, &c.) which appears from the information in the possession of the Board of Trade to represent its principal object.

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